

IOWA BIRD LIFE

Summer 1998 Volume 68 Number 3



IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

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FRONT COVER: Marbled Godwit near Center of the Nation, South Dakota, June 1993. Photo by Reid Allen.

INSIDE BACK COVER: Editorial Staff, Subscription/Membership Information, Instructions to Authors, Officers, Board of Directors, Standing Committees.

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OFFICIAL CHECKLIST OF IOWA BIRDS

1998 EDITION

Thomas H. Kent

The publication of this edition of the Iowa list only two years after the last (1996) is prompted by the publication of the Seventh Edition of the *Check-list of North American Birds* (American Ornithologists' Union 1998), which includes considerable rearrangement of taxonomic order and incorporates changes in the status and names of birds that have occurred since the 1983 edition of the *Check-list*. The "A.O.U. Check-list" is the authoritative source on the taxonomy of North American birds, and is followed exactly for Orders, Families, species' names, and species' order. Omitted are names of Suborders, Superfamilies, Subfamilies, and Tribes. The Subfamilies used in the last Iowa list are no longer needed, because Kinglets, Old World Warblers and Gnatcatchers, Thrushes, Wood-Warblers, Tanagers, Emberizids (sparrows), Cardinals, Saltators, and Allies, and Blackbirds have all been returned to Family status by the A.O.U. Also, some of the English names for Families have been modified by the A.O.U.

This Iowa list includes all records through July 1998. There are 401 species on the list, up from 397 in 1995 (*IBL* 66:76-85), 384 in 1991 (*IBL* 61:101-109), 371 in 1986 (*IBL* 56:46-55), and 361 in 1982 (*IBL* 52:67-76). Species added since 1995 are Neotropic Cormorant, Eurasian Collared-Dove, White-winged Dove, and Sprague's Pipit.

The categories for status, nesting, and type of record are given below, with the number of species in each category in parentheses. The status of species seen in 3, 4, or 8 of the last 10 years is determined by majority vote of the Records Committee. The status Origin Uncertain, which was new in the last edition, is discontinued in this edition (eliminating Fulvous Whistling-Duck from the list).

Regular = seen every year or nearly every year, at least 8 of last 10 years (303 species).

Casual = seen many years but not all, at least 3 and less than 9 of last 10 years (15 species).

Accidental = seen once to several times, but less than 5 of last 10 years (79 species).

Extirpated = once regular or casual, but not seen in 50 years (2 species).

Extinct = no longer seen anywhere (2 species).

N = definite evidence of having nested in the state (199 species).

N? = probable evidence of nesting in the state (3 species).

S = existing specimen (310 species).

P = photograph published or on file (74 species).

R = recording on file (1 species).

D = written description or published report on file (16 species).

Changes in the Iowa list since the last edition that resulted from changes in the A.O.U. Check-list (except for wording of Family names) are given below.

Changes in English names (both based on splits):

- Marbled Murrelet becomes Long-billed Murrelet (*Brachyramphus perdix*)
- Solitary Vireo becomes Blue-headed Vireo (separated from Cassin's and Plumbeous)

Changes in scientific names

- American Golden-Plover changes from *Pluvialis dominicus* back to *P. dominica*
- Marbled Murrelet becomes Long-billed Murrelet (*Brachyramphus perdix*)
- Burrowing Owl genus changed from *Speotyto* back to *Athene*
- Olive-sided Flycatcher changed from *Contopus borealis* to *C. cooperi*
- Cliff Swallow genus changed from *Hirundo* to *Petrochelidon*
- Chickadee genus changed from *Parus* to *Poecile*
- Titmouse genus changed from *Parus* to *Baeolophus*

Changes in position of orders and families:

- American Vultures moved to follow Storks
- Shrikes, Vireos, and Crows and Jays moved (in that order) to follow Flycatchers
- Starlings moved to follow Mockingbirds and Thrashers
- Cardinals, Saltators, and Allies moved to follow Emberizids (sparrows)

Changes in status of orders and families:

- New World Quail split into new family — Odontophoridae
- Kinglets split into new family — Regulidae
- Old World Warblers and Gnatcatchers elevated to family (Sylviinae to Sylviidae)
- Thrushes elevated to family (Turdinae to Turdidae)
- Wood-Warblers elevated to family (Parulinae to Parulidae)
- Tanagers elevated to family (Thraupinae to Thraupidae)
- Emberizids elevated to family (Emberizinae to Emberizidae)
- Cardinals, Saltators, and Allies elevated to family (Cardinalinae to Cardinalidae)
- Blackbirds elevated to family (Icterinae to Icteridae)

Changes of position of species within families:

- swans moved to follow geese and order reversed: Mute, Trumpeter, Tundra
- Brant moved to follow Canada Goose (rather than precede it)
- Gadwall, Eurasian Wigeon, and American Wigeon moved to follow Wood Duck
- Green-winged Teal moved to follow Garganey
- Blue-winged Teal, Cinnamon Teal, and Northern Shoveler moved to follow Mallard
- King Eider moved to precede Common Eider (rather than follow it)
- Oldsquaw move to follow scoters (rather than precede them)
- Black Scoter moved to follow White-winged (rather than precede Surf)
- Bufflehead moved to precede goldeneyes (rather than follow)
- Gyrfalcon moved ahead of Peregrine Falcon
- Sharp-tailed Grouse moved ahead of Greater Prairie-Chicken
- Sabine's Gull moved ahead of Black-legged Kittiwake
- Loggerhead Shrike moved ahead of Northern Shrike
- Yellow-throated Vireo moved ahead of Blue-headed (formerly Solitary) Vireo

Black-throated Green Warbler moved ahead of Townsend's Warbler
Spotted Towhee moved ahead of Eastern Towhee
Order of Zonotrichia sparrows reversed (Harris's, White-crowned, Golden-crowned)
Common Grackle moved ahead of Great-tailed Grackle

Changes in the Iowa list that are the result of new information and Records Committee decisions are summarized as follows:

Species added (all Accidental): Neotropic Cormorant, Eurasian Collared-Dove, White-winged Dove, Sprague's Pipit

Casual to Regular: Red-throated Loon, Pacific Loon, White-faced Ibis, Laughing Gull, Sabine's Gull

Regular to Casual: Burrowing Owl, Bohemian Waxwing

Accidental to Casual: Little Gull, Black-headed Gull, Mew Gull, Lazuli Bunting
Casual to Accidental: Rock Wren

Probable Nesting to Nesting: Red-necked Grebe

Specimen, new species: Eurasian Collared-Dove

Photograph to Specimen: Pacific Loon, Varied Thrush

Photograph, new species: Neotropic Cormorant, White-winged Dove

Documentation to Photograph: Ferruginous Hawk, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Pinyon Jay

Documentation, new species: Sprague's Pipit

The numbers given in the 1996 Edition for photographed and documented species should have been 71 and 18 (not 72 and 19).



Pacific Loon, 16 November 1895, Sabula, Jackson County.
Specimen rediscovered and photographed by Bob Sheets.

OFFICIAL CHECKLIST OF IOWA BIRDS, 1998 EDITION

N = Nesting, N? = Possible nesting

S = Specimen, P = Photograph, R = Recording, D = Documentation

Order GAVIIFORMES

Loons: Gaviidae

Red-throated Loon	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	Regular	P
Pacific Loon	<i>Gavia pacifica</i>	Regular	S
Common Loon	<i>Gavia immer</i>	Regular	N S

Order PODICIPEDIFORMES

Grebes: Podicipedidae

Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>	Regular	N S
Horned Grebe	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	Regular	S
Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	Regular	N S
Eared Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	Regular	N S
Western Grebe	<i>Aechmophorus occidentalis</i>	Regular	N S
Clark's Grebe	<i>Aechmophorus clarkii</i>	Accidental	P

Order PELECIFORMES

Pelicans: Pelecanidae

American White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>	Regular	N? S
Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	Accidental	P

Cormorants: Phalacrocoracidae

Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax brasiliensis</i>	Accidental	P
Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>	Regular	N S

Darters: Anhingidae

Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	Accidental	D
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Frigatebirds: Frigatidae

Majificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>	Accidental	P
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Order CICONIIFORMES

Herons, Bitterns, and Allies: Ardeidae

American Bittern	<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	Regular	N S
Least Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>	Regular	N S
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	Regular	N S
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	Regular	N S
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	Regular	S
Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	Regular	N? P
Tricolored Heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	Accidental	D
Reddish Egret	<i>Egretta rufescens</i>	Accidental	P
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Regular	N S
Green Heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>	Regular	N S
Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nyctocorax nycticorax</i>	Regular	N S
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	Regular	N S

Ibis and Spoonbills: Threskiornithidae

White Ibis	<i>Eudocimus albus</i>	Accidental	P
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Accidental	P
White-faced Ibis	<i>Plegadis chihi</i>	Regular	N S
Roseate Spoonbill	<i>Ajaia ajaja</i>	Accidental	P

Storks: Ciconiidae

Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	Accidental	D
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New World Vultures: Cathartidae

Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	Accidental	S
Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Regular	N S

Order ANSERIFORMES

Ducks, Geese, and Swans: Anatidae

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna autumnalis</i>	Accidental	S
Bean Goose	<i>Anser fabalis</i>	Accidental	P
Greater White-fronted Goose	<i>Anser albifrons</i>	Regular	S
Snow Goose	<i>Chen caerulescens</i>	Regular	S
Ross's Goose	<i>Chen rossii</i>	Regular	S
Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	Regular	N S
Brant	<i>Branta bernicla</i>	Accidental	S
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	Regular	P
Trumpeter Swan	<i>Cygnus buccinator</i>	Regular	N S
Tundra Swan	<i>Cygnus columbianus</i>	Regular	S
Wood Duck	<i>Aix sponsa</i>	Regular	N S
Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	Regular	N S
Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>	Accidental	S
American Wigeon	<i>Anas americana</i>	Regular	N S
American Black Duck	<i>Anas rubripes</i>	Regular	N S
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Regular	N S
Blue-winged Teal	<i>Anas discors</i>	Regular	N S
Cinnamon Teal	<i>Anas cyanoptera</i>	Regular	P
Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	Regular	N S
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	Regular	N S
Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>	Accidental	D
Green-winged Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	Regular	N S
Canvasback	<i>Aythya valisineria</i>	Regular	N S
Redhead	<i>Aythya americana</i>	Regular	N S
Ring-necked Duck	<i>Aythya collaris</i>	Regular	N S
Greater Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>	Regular	S
Lesser Scaup	<i>Aythya affinis</i>	Regular	N S
King Eider	<i>Somateria spectabilis</i>	Accidental	S
Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	Accidental	P
Harlequin Duck	<i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i>	Accidental	S
Surf Scoter	<i>Melanitta perspicillata</i>	Regular	S
White-winged Scoter	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	Regular	S
Black Scoter	<i>Melanitta nigra</i>	Regular	S
Oldsquaw	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	Regular	S
Bufflehead	<i>Bucephala albeola</i>	Regular	N S
Common Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	Regular	S
Barrow's Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala islandica</i>	Accidental	P
Hooded Merganser	<i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>	Regular	N S
Common Merganser	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	Regular	S
Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	Regular	S
Ruddy Duck	<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>	Regular	N S

Order FALCONIFORMES

Hawks, Kites, Eagles, and Allies: Accipitridae

Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Regular	S
Swallow-tailed Kite	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>	Accidental	N S
Mississippi Kite	<i>Ictinia mississippiensis</i>	Regular	N P
Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Regular	N S
Northern Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	Regular	N S
Sharp-shinned Hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	Regular	N S
Cooper's Hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	Regular	N S
Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	Regular	S
Red-shouldered Hawk	<i>Buteo lineatus</i>	Regular	N S

Broad-winged Hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>	Regular	N	S
Swainson's Hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	Regular	N	S
Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	Regular	N	S
Ferruginous Hawk	<i>Buteo regalis</i>	Accidental	P	
Rough-legged Hawk	<i>Buteo lagopus</i>	Regular	S	
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	Regular	S	
Caracaras and Falcons: Falconidae				
American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	Regular	N	S
Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>	Regular	N	S
Gyrfalcon	<i>Falco rusticolus</i>	Accidental	P	
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Regular	N	S
Prairie Falcon	<i>Falco mexicanus</i>	Regular	S	
Order GALLIFORMES				
Partridges, Grouse, Turkeys, and Old World Quail: Phasianidae				
Gray Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	Regular	N	S
Ring-necked Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	Regular	N	S
Ruffed Grouse	<i>Bonasa umbellus</i>	Regular	N	S
Sharp-tailed Grouse	<i>Tympanuchus phasianellus</i>	Extirpated	S	
Greater Prairie-Chicken	<i>Tympanuchus cupido</i>	Accidental	N	S
Wild Turkey	<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>	Regular	N	S
New World Quail: Odontophoridae				
Northern Bobwhite	<i>Colinus virginianus</i>	Regular	N	S
Order GRUIFORMES				
Rails, Gallinules, and Coots: Rallidae				
Yellow Rail	<i>Coturnicops noveboracensis</i>	Regular	S	
Black Rail	<i>Laterallus jamaicensis</i>	Accidental	D	
King Rail	<i>Rallus elegans</i>	Regular	N	S
Virginia Rail	<i>Rallus limicola</i>	Regular	N	S
Sora	<i>Porzana carolina</i>	Regular	N	S
Purple Gallinule	<i>Porphyrrula martinica</i>	Accidental	S	
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Regular	N	S
American Coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>	Regular	N	S
Cranes: Gruidae				
Sandhill Crane	<i>Grus canadensis</i>	Regular	N	S
Whooping Crane	<i>Grus americana</i>	Accidental	N	S
Order CHARADRIIFORMES				
Lapwings and Plovers: Charadriidae				
Black-bellied Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Regular	S	
American Golden-Plover	<i>Pluvialis dominica</i>	Regular	S	
Snowy Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	Accidental	P	
Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	Regular	S	
Piping Plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Regular	N	S
Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	Regular	N	S
Stilts and Avocets: Recurvirostridae				
Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>	Casual	P	
American Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra americana</i>	Regular	S	
Sandpipers, Phalaropes, and Allies: Scolopacidae				
Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	Regular	S	
Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>	Regular	S	
Solitary Sandpiper	<i>Tringa solitaria</i>	Regular	S	
Willet	<i>Catoptrophorus semipalmatus</i>	Regular	S	
Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularia</i>	Regular	N	S
Upland Sandpiper	<i>Bartramia longicauda</i>	Regular	N	S
Eskimo Curlew	<i>Numenius borealis</i>	Extirpated	S	

Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Casual	P
Long-billed Curlew	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Accidental	N S
Hudsonian Godwit	<i>Limosa haemastica</i>	Regular	S
Marbled Godwit	<i>Limosa fedoa</i>	Regular	N S
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Regular	S
Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Casual	S
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	Regular	S
Semipalmated Sandpiper	<i>Calidris pusilla</i>	Regular	S
Western Sandpiper	<i>Calidris mauri</i>	Regular	S
Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>	Regular	S
White-rumped Sandpiper	<i>Calidris fuscicollis</i>	Regular	S
Baird's Sandpiper	<i>Calidris bairdii</i>	Regular	S
Pectoral Sandpiper	<i>Calidris melanotos</i>	Regular	S
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Accidental	P
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Regular	S
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Accidental	P
Stilt Sandpiper	<i>Calidris himantopus</i>	Regular	S
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	<i>Tryngites subruficollis</i>	Regular	S
Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	Accidental	S
Short-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>	Regular	S
Long-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus scolopaceus</i>	Regular	S
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	Regular	N S
American Woodcock	<i>Scolopax minor</i>	Regular	N S
Wilson's Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>	Regular	N S
Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	Regular	S
Red Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus fulicaria</i>	Casual	P
Skuas, Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers: Laridae			
Pomarine Jaeger	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>	Accidental	P
Parasitic Jaeger	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	Accidental	S
Long-tailed Jaeger	<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	Accidental	S
Laughing Gull	<i>Larus atricilla</i>	Regular	P
Franklin's Gull	<i>Larus pipixcan</i>	Regular	N S
Little Gull	<i>Larus minutus</i>	Casual	P
Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	Casual	N? P
Bonaparte's Gull	<i>Larus philadelphia</i>	Regular	S
Mew Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>	Casual	P
Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>	Regular	N S
California Gull	<i>Larus californicus</i>	Casual	P
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	Regular	S
Thayer's Gull	<i>Larus thayeri</i>	Regular	P
Iceland Gull	<i>Larus glaucopterus</i>	Casual	P
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	Regular	P
Slaty-backed Gull	<i>Larus schistisagus</i>	Accidental	P
Glaucous Gull	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	Regular	P
Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	Regular	P
Sabine's Gull	<i>Xema sabini</i>	Regular	S
Black-legged Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	Regular	P
Ross's Gull	<i>Rhodostethia rosea</i>	Accidental	P
Ivory Gull	<i>Pagophila eburnea</i>	Accidental	P
Caspian Tern	<i>Sterna caspia</i>	Regular	S
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Regular	S
Forster's Tern	<i>Sterna forsteri</i>	Regular	N S
Least Tern	<i>Sterna antillarum</i>	Regular	N S
Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	Regular	N S

Auks, Murres, and Puffins: Alcidae				
Thick-billed Murre	<i>Uria lomvia</i>	Accidental	D	
Long-billed Murrelet	<i>Brachyramphus perdix</i>	Accidental	D	
Ancient Murrelet	<i>Synthliboramphus antiquus</i>	Accidental	D	
Order COLUMBIFORMES				
Pigeons and Doves: Columbidae				
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	Regular	N	S
Eurasian Collared-Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Accidental	S	
White-winged Dove	<i>Zenaida asiatica</i>	Accidental	P	
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	Regular	N	S
Passenger Pigeon	<i>Ectopistes migratorius</i>	Extinct	N	S
Common Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina passerina</i>	Accidental	P	
Order PSITTACIFORMES				
Lories, Parakeets, Macaws, and Parrots: Psittacidae				
Carolina Parakeet	<i>Conuropsis carolinensis</i>	Extinct		D
Order CUCULIFORMES				
Cuckoos, Roadrunners, and Anis: Cuculidae				
Black-billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus erythrophthalmus</i>	Regular	N	S
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	Regular	N	S
Groove-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga sulcirostris</i>	Accidental	P	
Order STRIGIFORMES				
Barn Owls: Tytonidae				
Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	Regular	N	S
Typical Owls: Strigidae				
Eastern Screech-Owl	<i>Otus asio</i>	Regular	N	S
Great Horned Owl	<i>Bubo virginianus</i>	Regular	N	S
Snowy Owl	<i>Nyctea scandiaca</i>	Regular	S	
Northern Hawk Owl	<i>Surnia ulula</i>	Accidental	P	
Burrowing Owl	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	Casual	N	S
Barred Owl	<i>Strix varia</i>	Regular	N	S
Great Gray Owl	<i>Strix nebulosa</i>	Accidental	S	
Long-eared Owl	<i>Asio otus</i>	Regular	N	S
Short-eared Owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	Regular	N	S
Northern Saw-whet Owl	<i>Aegolius acadicus</i>	Regular		S
Order CAPRIMULGIFORMES				
Goatsuckers: Caprimulgidae				
Common Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles minor</i>	Regular	N	S
Chuck-will's-widow	<i>Caprimulgus carolinensis</i>	Regular	N	P
Whip-poor-will	<i>Caprimulgus vociferus</i>	Regular	N	S
Order APODIFORMES				
Swifts: Apodidae				
Chimney Swift	<i>Chaetura pelasgica</i>	Regular	N	S
Hummingbirds: Trochilidae				
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	<i>Archilochus colubris</i>	Regular	N	S
Rufous Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus rufus</i>	Accidental		S
Order CORACIFORMES				
Kingfishers: Alcedinidae				
Belted Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle alcyon</i>	Regular	N	S
Order PICIFORMES				
Woodpeckers and Allies: Picidae				
Lewis's Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes lewis</i>	Accidental		P
Red-headed Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>	Regular	N	S
Red-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes carolinus</i>	Regular	N	S
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>	Regular	N	S

Downy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides pubescens</i>	Regular	N	S
Hairy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides villosus</i>	Regular	N	S
Black-backed Woodpecker	<i>Picoides arcticus</i>	Accidental	P	
Northern Flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	Regular	N	S
Pileated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>	Regular	N	S
Order PASSERIFORMES				
Tyrant Flycatchers: Tyrannidae				
Olive-sided Flycatcher	<i>Contopus cooperi</i>	Regular		S
Western Wood-Pewee	<i>Contopus sordidulus</i>	Accidental	D	
Eastern Wood-Pewee	<i>Contopus virens</i>	Regular	N	S
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax flaviventris</i>	Regular		S
Acadian Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax virescens</i>	Regular	N	S
Alder Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax alnorum</i>	Regular		R
Willow Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii</i>	Regular	N	S
Least Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax minimus</i>	Regular	N	S
Western Flycatcher species	<i>Empidonax sp.</i>	Accidental	P	
Eastern Phoebe	<i>Sayornis phoebe</i>	Regular	N	S
Say's Phoebe	<i>Sayornis saya</i>	Accidental	N	P
Vermilion Flycatcher	<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>	Accidental	P	
Great Crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus crinitus</i>	Regular	N	S
Western Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus verticalis</i>	Regular	N	S
Eastern Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>	Regular	N	S
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	<i>Tyrannus forficatus</i>	Regular	N	S
Shrikes: Laniidae				
Loggerhead Shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	Regular	N	S
Northern Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>	Regular		S
Vireos: Vireonidae				
White-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo griseus</i>	Regular	N	P
Bell's Vireo	<i>Vireo bellii</i>	Regular	N	S
Yellow-throated Vireo	<i>Vireo flavifrons</i>	Regular	N	S
Blue-headed Vireo	<i>Vireo solitarius</i>	Regular		S
Warbling Vireo	<i>Vireo gilvus</i>	Regular	N	S
Philadelphia Vireo	<i>Vireo philadelphicus</i>	Regular		S
Red-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>	Regular	N	S
Crows and Jays: Corvidae				
Gray Jay	<i>Perisoreus canadensis</i>	Accidental		P
Blue Jay	<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>	Regular	N	S
Pinyon Jay	<i>Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus</i>	Accidental		P
Clark's Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga columbiana</i>	Accidental		S
Black-billed Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	Accidental	N	S
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	Regular	N	S
Fish Crow	<i>Corvus ossifragus</i>	Accidental		D
Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	Accidental		S
Larks: Alaudidae				
Horned Lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>	Regular	N	S
Swallows: Hirundinidae				
Purple Martin	<i>Progne subis</i>	Regular	N	S
Tree Swallow	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>	Regular	N	S
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx serpennis</i>	Regular	N	S
Bank Swallow	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Regular	N	S
Cliff Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>	Regular	N	S
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Regular	N	S

Chickadees and Titmice: Paridae					
Black-capped Chickadee	<i>Poecile atricapillus</i>	Regular	N	S	
Boreal Chickadee	<i>Poecile hudsonicus</i>	Accidental		P	
Tufted Titmouse	<i>Baeolophus bicolor</i>	Regular	N	S	
Nuthatches: Sittidae					
Red-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta canadensis</i>	Regular	N	S	
White-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>	Regular	N	S	
Pygmy Nuthatch	<i>Sitta pygmaea</i>	Accidental		P	
Creepers: Certhiidae					
Brown Creeper	<i>Certhia americana</i>	Regular	N	S	
Wrens: Troglodytidae					
Rock Wren	<i>Salpinctes obsoletus</i>	Accidental	N	P	
Carolina Wren	<i>Thryothorus ludovicianus</i>	Regular	N	S	
Bewick's Wren	<i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>	Regular	N	S	
House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	Regular	N	S	
Winter Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	Regular	N	S	
Sedge Wren	<i>Cistothorus platensis</i>	Regular	N	S	
Marsh Wren	<i>Cistothorus palustris</i>	Regular	N	S	
Kinglets: Regulidae					
Golden-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus satrapa</i>	Regular		S	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus calendula</i>	Regular		S	
Old World Warblers and Gnatcatchers: Sylviidae					
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila caerulea</i>	Regular	N	S	
Thrushes: Turdidae					
Eastern Bluebird	<i>Sialia sialis</i>	Regular	N	S	
Mountain Bluebird	<i>Sialia currucoides</i>	Casual		P	
Townsend's Solitaire	<i>Myadestes townsendi</i>	Regular		P	
Veery	<i>Catharus fuscescens</i>	Regular	N	S	
Gray-cheeked Thrush	<i>Catharus minimus</i>	Regular		S	
Swainson's Thrush	<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>	Regular		S	
Hermit Thrush	<i>Catharus guttatus</i>	Regular		S	
Wood Thrush	<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	Regular	N	S	
American Robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>	Regular	N	S	
Varied Thrush	<i>Ixoreus naevius</i>	Regular		S	
Mockingbirds and Thrashers: Mimidae					
Gray Catbird	<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>	Regular	N	S	
Northern Mockingbird	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	Regular	N	S	
Sage Thrasher	<i>Oreoscoptes montanus</i>	Accidental		P	
Brown Thrasher	<i>Toxostoma rufum</i>	Regular	N	S	
Curve-billed Thrasher	<i>Toxostoma curvirostre</i>	Accidental		P	
Starlings: Sturnidae					
European Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Regular	N	S	
Wagtails and Pipits: Motacillidae					
American Pipit	<i>Anthus rubescens</i>	Regular		S	
Sprague's Pipit	<i>Anthus spragueii</i>	Accidental		D	
Waxwings: Bombycillidae					
Bohemian Waxwing	<i>Bombycilla garrulus</i>	Casual		S	
Cedar Waxwing	<i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i>	Regular	N	S	
Wood-Warbblers: Parulidae					
Blue-winged Warbler	<i>Vermivora pinus</i>	Regular	N	S	
Golden-winged Warbler	<i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i>	Regular	N	S	
Tennessee Warbler	<i>Vermivora peregina</i>	Regular		S	
Orange-crowned Warbler	<i>Vermivora celata</i>	Regular		S	
Nashville Warbler	<i>Vermivora ruficapilla</i>	Regular		S	

Northern Parula	<i>Parula americana</i>	Regular	N	S
Yellow Warbler	<i>Dendroica petechia</i>	Regular	N	S
Chestnut-sided Warbler	<i>Dendroica pensylvanica</i>	Regular	N	S
Magnolia Warbler	<i>Dendroica magnolia</i>	Regular		S
Cape May Warbler	<i>Dendroica tigrina</i>	Regular		S
Black-throated Blue Warbler	<i>Dendroica caerulescens</i>	Regular		S
Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Dendroica coronata</i>	Regular		S
Black-throated Gray Warbler	<i>Dendroica nigrescens</i>	Accidental	D	
Black-throated Green Warbler	<i>Dendroica virens</i>	Regular		S
Townsend's Warbler	<i>Dendroica townsendi</i>	Accidental	D	
Blackburnian Warbler	<i>Dendroica fusca</i>	Regular		S
Yellow-throated Warbler	<i>Dendroica dominica</i>	Regular	N	P
Pine Warbler	<i>Dendroica pinus</i>	Regular		S
Prairie Warbler	<i>Dendroica discolor</i>	Regular	N	P
Palm Warbler	<i>Dendroica palmarum</i>	Regular		S
Bay-breasted Warbler	<i>Dendroica castanea</i>	Regular		S
Blackpoll Warbler	<i>Dendroica striata</i>	Regular		S
Cerulean Warbler	<i>Dendroica cerulea</i>	Regular	N	S
Black-and-white Warbler	<i>Mniotilla varia</i>	Regular	N	S
American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>	Regular	N	S
Prothonotary Warbler	<i>Protonotaria citrea</i>	Regular	N	S
Worm-eating Warbler	<i>Helmitheros vermivorus</i>	Regular	N	P
Ovenbird	<i>Seiurus aurocapillus</i>	Regular	N	S
Northern Waterthrush	<i>Seiurus noveboracensis</i>	Regular		S
Louisiana Waterthrush	<i>Seiurus motacilla</i>	Regular	N	S
Kentucky Warbler	<i>Oporornis formosus</i>	Regular	N	S
Connecticut Warbler	<i>Oporornis agilis</i>	Regular		S
Mourning Warbler	<i>Oporornis philadelphicus</i>	Regular		S
MacGillivray's Warbler	<i>Oporornis tolmieei</i>	Accidental	D	
Common Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	Regular	N	S
Hooded Warbler	<i>Wilsonia citrina</i>	Regular	N	S
Wilson's Warbler	<i>Wilsonia pusilla</i>	Regular		S
Canada Warbler	<i>Wilsonia canadensis</i>	Regular		S
Yellow-breasted Chat	<i>Icteria virens</i>	Regular	N	S
Tanagers: Thraupidae				
Summer Tanager	<i>Piranga rubra</i>	Regular	N	S
Scarlet Tanager	<i>Piranga olivacea</i>	Regular	N	S
Western Tanager	<i>Piranga ludoviciana</i>	Casual		P
Emberizids: Emberizidae				
Green-tailed Towhee	<i>Pipilo chlorurus</i>	Accidental		P
Spotted Towhee	<i>Pipilo maculatus</i>	Regular		P
Eastern Towhee	<i>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</i>	Regular	N	S
American Tree Sparrow	<i>Spizella arborea</i>	Regular		S
Chipping Sparrow	<i>Spizella passerina</i>	Regular	N	S
Clay-colored Sparrow	<i>Spizella pallida</i>	Regular	N	S
Field Sparrow	<i>Spizella pusilla</i>	Regular	N	S
Vesper Sparrow	<i>Pooecetes gramineus</i>	Regular	N	S
Lark Sparrow	<i>Chondestes grammacus</i>	Regular	N	S
Black-throated Sparrow	<i>Amphispiza bilineata</i>	Accidental		P
Lark Bunting	<i>Calamospiza melanocorys</i>	Accidental		P
Savannah Sparrow	<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>	Regular	N	S
Grasshopper Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	Regular	N	S
Henslow's Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus henslowii</i>	Regular	N	S
Le Conte's Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus lecontei</i>	Regular		S

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus nelsoni</i>	Regular	S
Fox Sparrow	<i>Passerella iliaca</i>	Regular	S
Song Sparrow	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>	Regular	N S
Lincoln's Sparrow	<i>Melospiza lincolni</i>	Regular	S
Swamp Sparrow	<i>Melospiza georgiana</i>	Regular	N S
White-throated Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i>	Regular	S
Harris's Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia querula</i>	Regular	S
White-crowned Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>	Regular	S
Golden-crowned Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia atricapilla</i>	Accidental	P
Dark-eyed Junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	Regular	S
Lapland Longspur	<i>Calcarius lapponicus</i>	Regular	S
Smith's Longspur	<i>Calcarius pictus</i>	Regular	S
Chestnut-collared Longspur	<i>Calcarius ornatus</i>	Accidental	S
Snow Bunting	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>	Regular	S
Cardinals, Saltators, and Allies: Cardinalidae			
Northern Cardinal	<i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>	Regular	N S
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i>	Regular	N S
Black-headed Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus melanocephalus</i>	Accidental	P
Blue Grosbeak	<i>Guiraca caerulea</i>	Regular	N S
Lazuli Bunting	<i>Passerina amoena</i>	Casual	P
Indigo Bunting	<i>Passerina cyanea</i>	Regular	N S
Dickcissel	<i>Spiza americana</i>	Regular	N S
Blackbirds: Icteridae			
Bobolink	<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>	Regular	N S
Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>	Regular	N S
Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>	Regular	N S
Western Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella neglecta</i>	Regular	N S
Yellow-headed Blackbird	<i>Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus</i>	Regular	N S
Rusty Blackbird	<i>Euphagus carolinus</i>	Regular	S
Brewer's Blackbird	<i>Euphagus cyanocephalus</i>	Regular	S
Common Grackle	<i>Quiscalus quiscula</i>	Regular	N S
Great-tailed Grackle	<i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i>	Regular	N P
Brown-headed Cowbird	<i>Molothrus ater</i>	Regular	N S
Orchard Oriole	<i>Icterus spurius</i>	Regular	N S
Baltimore Oriole	<i>Icterus galbula</i>	Regular	N S
Bullock's Oriole	<i>Icterus bullockii</i>	Accidental	D
Fringilline and Cardueline Finches and Allies: Fringillidae			
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch	<i>Leucosticte tephrocotis</i>	Accidental	P
Pine Grosbeak	<i>Pinicola enucleator</i>	Casual	S
Purple Finch	<i>Carpodacus purpureus</i>	Regular	S
House Finch	<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>	Regular	N S
Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	Regular	N S
White-winged Crossbill	<i>Loxia leucoptera</i>	Regular	S
Common Redpoll	<i>Carduelis flammea</i>	Regular	S
Hoary Redpoll	<i>Carduelis hornemannii</i>	Accidental	P
Pine Siskin	<i>Carduelis pinus</i>	Regular	N S
American Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis tristis</i>	Regular	N S
Evening Grosbeak	<i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i>	Regular	S
Old World Sparrows: Passeridae			
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Regular	N S
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	Regular	N P

REPORT OF THE RECORDS COMMITTEE FOR 1997

THOMAS H. KENT

The Records Committee reviewed 66 records from 1997. Of these, 56 were accepted and 8 were not. Eurasian Collared-Dove and White-winged Dove were added to the state list. In addition, 1 old record was evaluated for the first time, 4 old records were re-evaluated, and 1 old record from 1996 was completed.

Committee members for 1996 with years in which their terms expire were: Francis L. Moore (1998), Ann M. Johnson (1999), W. Ross Silcock (2000), Chris Edwards (2001), James L. Fuller (2002), Matthew C. Kenne (2003), and Thomas H. Kent (secretary, appointed by the committee). Robert I. Cecil was nominated by the Committee and appointed by the Board of Directors to fill a regular term beginning in 1998.

The committee met on 20 September 1997. Most of the business was transacted by mail. The category A-O (origin uncertain) was eliminated because the committee was unable to clearly define the criteria for placing bird records in this category. Birds of uncertain origin will be classified "NA". The committee felt that comments were adequate to indicate that the identification was acceptable and the origin in doubt.

The four-digit number (year and sequence number) assigned to each record reviewed by the Records Committee is included for future reference. For old records not previously reviewed, the year is the year of first review and the sequence number is two letters. Records are classified as follows: A = Accepted (-S = specimen, -P = photograph, -R = recording, -D = documentation) and NA = Not Accepted. In order to be Accepted, a record must receive 7 votes on the initial review or 6 votes on a subsequent review. The subcategories A-S, A-P, and A-R indicate that physical evidence supports the identification, and records are subclassified based on a majority vote. References to *IBL* are the page of the Field Reports in *Iowa Bird Life* where the record is cited. P- numbers refer to the IOU Photo File entry number. Published notes and previous citations may contain more details. An * indicates a previously uncited documentation.

1997 RECORDS ACCEPTED

Red-throated Loon: 13 Apr at Pleasant Creek L. in Linn Co. (97-06, *IBL* 67:85, Edwards 1998); 29 Oct at Clear L. in Cerro Gordo Co. (97-34, *IBL* 68: 10).

Pacific Loon: 15 Apr at West Okoboji in Dickinson Co. (97-07, *IBL* 67:85, Thelen 1998); 2 Aug at Spirit L. in Dickinson Co. (97-35, P-0568, *IBL* 68:10); and 22 Nov at Saylorville Res. (97-36, *IBL* 68:10).

Clark's Grebe: 13-14 Dec at Diamond L. in Poweshiek Co. (97-50, *IBL* 68(2) cover, 68:56, P-0573, P-0578).

Black-crowned Night-Heron: 21 Dec at Polk City W.A. in Polk Co. (97-52, *IBL* 68:53, 56)

White-faced Ibis: 15 Aug at Harrier M. in Boone Co. (97-37, *IBL* 68:10). The identification was based on the red eyes.

Roseate Spoonbill: 4 Aug at Waubonsie W.A. in Fremont Co. (97-38, P-0567, *IBL* 68(1) cover, 68:10).

Ferruginous Hawk: 12 Feb in Cerro Gordo Co. (97-01, P-0558, Fischer 1998, Kent 1998a).

Snowy Plover: 14 Jun at Black Hawk L. in Sac Co. (97-25, P-0564, *IBL* 67:123).

Black-necked Stilt: 26 Mar at Mark Twain N.W.R. in Louisa Co. (97-02, *IBL* 67:87).

Whimbrel: 10 May in Fremont Co. (97-53, *IBL* 68:3, 7, *B. J., Doug, and Roger Rose)

Laughing Gull: 16 Jun at Black Hawk L. in Sac Co. (97-26, *IBL* 67:124).

- Black-headed Gull:** 16 Jul at Jemmerson Sl. in Dickinson Co. (97-27, *IBL* 67:124, Proescholdt 1998a).
- Mew Gull:** 20 Dec at Red Rock Res. in Marion Co. (97-54, *IBL* 68:53, 60).
- California Gull:** 7 Sep at West Okoboji in Dickinson Co. (97-40, *IBL* 68:13); 9 Dec at Saylorville Res. in Polk Co. (97-55, *IBL* 68:60).
- Iceland Gull:** 19 Mar at Red Rock Res. in Marion Co. (97-09, P-0545, *IBL* 67:88); 17 Dec at Red Rock Res. (9756, *IBL* 68:60, Brees 1998); and 21 Dec at Red Rock Res. (97-57, *IBL* 68:60).
- Lesser Black-backed Gull:** a second-year bird on 8 Oct at Coralville Res. in Johnson Co. (97-41, *IBL* 68:13).
- Black-legged Kittiwake:** an adult on 17 Dec at Red Rock Res. in Marion Co. (97-58, *IBL* 68:60) and another adult on 21 Dec at Waterloo in Black Hawk Co. (97-59, *IBL* 68:53, 60).
- Ross's Gull:** 13 Dec at Red Rock Res. in Marion Co. (97-60, P-0579, P-0580, *IBL* 68:54, 61) and 27 Dec at L. Manawa in Pottawattamie Co. (97-61, *IBL* 68:61).
- Sabine's Gull:** 1 adult on 8 Jul at Kettleson Hogsback A. in Dickinson Co. (97-28, *IBL* 67:124, Schoeneweis 1998); 1 juvenile on 7 Sep at Saylorville Res. in Polk Co. (97-42, *IBL* 68:13), and 1 juvenile on 9 Oct at Coralville Res. in Johnson Co. (97-43, *IBL* 68:13).
- Eurasian Collared-Dove:** Iowa's first record of this species involved several birds at Grinnell in Poweshiek Co. from 30 Aug through the end of the year (97-44, P-0571, *IBL* 68:14) and one that was found dead and preserved (97-62, P-0577).
- White-winged Dove:** Iowa's first records involve four widely separated birds: 8 Apr at Ottumwa in Wapello Co. (97-10, P-0547, *IBL* 67:88); 28 Apr at Le Grand in Marshall Co. (97-11, P-0549, P-0563, *IBL* 67:88, Proescholdt 1998b); 30 Aug at Riverton A. in Fremont Co. (97-48, *Michael D. Overton); and 21 Sep at Fort Dodge in Webster Co. (97-45, *IBL* 68:14, Hultine 1998, P-0569).
- Great Gray Owl:** 8 Feb at Clay Banks F. in Cerro Gordo Co. (97-04, P-0537, P-0538, *IBL* 67:60-61).
- Vermilion Flycatcher:** a male on 24 May at Holstein in Ida Co. (97-12, *IBL* 67:89, Rector 1998a).
- Pinyon Jay:** The bird in Boone Co. in 1996 (96-66) remained until 22 Mar 1997 (Crim and Crim 1997), but was not reviewed as a 1997 record.
- Black-billed Magpie:** 8 May south of Westfield in Plymouth Co. (97-13, *IBL* 67:89).
- Marsh Wren:** 21 Dec at Brenton Sl. in Dallas Co. (97-64, *IBL* 68:62) and 27 Dec at New L. in Woodbury Co. (9765, *IBL* 68:62).
- Black-throated Gray Warbler:** Iowa's second record was found on 10 May near Cedar Bluff in Cedar County (9714, *IBL* 67:91).
- Yellow-throated Warbler/Northern Parula (Sutton's Warbler):** This very rare hybrid was well described on 3 May at L. Ahquabi in Warren Co. (97-15, *IBL* 67:91).
- Western Tanager:** 2 May at Des Moines in Polk Co. (97-29, *Pauline Rowe); 3 May at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. in Van Buren Co. (97-16, *IBL* 67:91, Fuller 1998); 8 May at Ames (97-17, P-0560, *IBL* 67:91, Healy 1998); and a female on 3 Jun at Swan L. in Carroll Co. (97-30, *IBL* 67:127).
- Black-headed Grosbeak:** An immature male was seen on 9 Aug at Riverton A. (97-49, *Michael D. Overton).
- Lazuli Bunting:** 18 May south of Westfield in Plymouth Co. (97-19, *IBL* 67:91, Sinclair 1998); 18 May at Stone P. in Woodbury Co. (97-20, *IBL* 67:91); 18 May at Mason City in Cerro Gordo Co. (97-21, *IBL* 67:91); and 27 May north of Glenwood in Mills Co. (97-22, P-0550, P-0559, *IBL* 67:91, Kent 1998b).
- Le Conte's Sparrow:** 21 Dec at Brenton's Sl. in Dallas Co. (97-66, *IBL* 68:53, 63).
- Chestnut-collared Longspur:** 10 Apr south of Sutherland in O'Brien Co. (97-23, *IBL* 67:92); 11 Apr northwest of Larchwood in Lyon Co. (97-31, *IBL* 67:92, Henrickson 1997); 12 Apr at Grover's L. in Dickinson Co. (97-24, P0555, *IBL* 67:92); 12 Apr in Woodbury Co. (97-32, *IBL* 67:92); and 12 Apr southwest of Percival in Fremont Co. (97-33, *IBL* 67:92, Padelford and Padelford 1998).
- Pine Grosbeak:** 5 Nov at Holstein in Ida Co. (97-47, *IBL* 68:17, Rector 1998b).

1997 RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED

- Neotropic Cormorant:** An identification based on small size was not considered definitive (97-51).
- Barnacle Goose:** 5 Mar at Green Castle R.A. in Marshall Co. (97-08, *IBL* 67:86). The identification was accepted but the origin of the bird uncertain.

Greater Prairie-Chicken: Members expressed some uncertainty about the description of summer birds in northern Iowa (97-39, *IBL* 68:12).

American Woodcock: A winter bird was not seen well (97-03, *IBL* 67:55, 60).

Eastern Phoebe: The description of a winter bird was not judged to be conclusive (97-63).

MacGillivray's Warbler: A fall sighting of this difficult-to-identify species was not beyond doubt (97-46, *IBL* 68:16).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: A flock at a very unusual date and in a very unusual habitat needed more proof to be accepted (97-18).

Lark Sparrow: A winter report was plausible, but not accepted (97-05, *IBL* 67:62).

OLD RECORDS REVIEWED FOR FIRST TIME

Common Raven: A photograph published in the *Cedar Rapids Gazette* on 16 Mar 1969 was considered to be a raven, but its behavior suggested a released or escaped bird (97-AA). The committee would like more information on this bird.

OLD RECORDS RE-REVIEWED

Pacific Loon: A specimen taken at Sabula in Jackson Co. on 16 Nov 1895 (93-AA, P-0574) was relocated in the Jackson County Museum in Maquoketa and photographed by Bob Sheets, which changed the category of this record and this species to A-S.

Anhinga: A bird circling over Lake Darling in Washington Co. on 17 Sep 1996 (96-45, *Stephen J. Dinsmore, Dinsmore 1998) was accepted after obtaining opinions from experts in six other states concerning possible confusion of soaring Anhingas with Double-crested Cormorants.

Laughing Gull: A record of an adult from 10 May 1996 at Saylorville Res. (96-30, P-0513, *IBL* 66: 104) was accepted as A-P after a documentation, explanation of the photograph, and request for re-review were received.

Great Gray Owl: Photos of a road kill from 17 Feb 1996 in Grundy Co. (96-37, P-0573, *IBL* 66:57) changed the category of this record to A-S.

CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS TO 1996 REPORT

Wilson's Phalarope: A record from Union Slough N.W.R. on 20 Oct 1996 (96-49; *IBL* 67:22) was accepted, but left out of the report.

Skua species: A photograph of an unidentified flying seabird bird at Credit Island in Scott Co. from 2 Apr 1995 (96-AB, *Herbert J. Hodges) was identified by two seabird experts as a skua. Later consults from other experts and one of the first experts left us with an unidentified mystery bird.

Pinyon Jay: The bird was first seen on 30 November, not 30 October as stated in the 1996 report.

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FIFTY YEARS AGO IN IOWA BIRD LIFE

The main article in this thin 16-page issue dealt with the fall migration of birds at Little Wall and Goose (now known as Anderson Lake) lakes near Jewell in Hamilton County. I was impressed by the similarity in the species reported then with what one would find currently and yet the relative scarcity of some species then that are common now. For those two wetlands, the 1947 seasonal totals of 21 Double-crested Cormorants, 11 Canada Geese, 2 Ring-necked Ducks, and no Ring-billed Gulls are very low compared to what one would find there now. This paper reinforces once again the importance of such studies in providing a historical base for future reference and comparison. Much of the rest of the issue consists of notes on birding activities by I.O.U. members during the previous summer and a report on the second I.O.U. fall meeting in Winthrop. Like the first fall meeting in 1947, this one was mostly an informal get together although a short business meeting was held. With 75 people in attendance, it rivaled some of our recent I.O.U. meetings. The issue closes with an urgent appeal by the editor for members to write articles for the journal. He noted that one anticipated article had not been submitted on time, and he had no other material for the issue, hence its brevity.—ed.

FIELD REPORTS--SPRING 1998

THOMAS H. KENT

WEATHER

March temperatures averaged below normal and below those of the very warm February. A major cold spell and snow storm occurred from the 8th to the 14th with most of the state below zero on the 12th. Temperatures were then moderate until after the 25th when occasional 80 degree temperatures occurred. Heavy rains occurred on the 29th and 30th. The 107 degree temperature range in March was the largest ever.

In contrast to March, April was a very average month with little variation from normal temperatures and slightly above average rainfall.

Early and late May were average, but mid-May was characterized by strong south winds and warm temperatures.



GENERAL TRENDS

Many waterfowl arrived and even moved through the state in February so that March and April numbers were below average at best. With the warm winter, warm spell in late March, and average April and early May weather, I expected that many migrants would arrive early. This was not the case, except for a small group of warblers that were noted in Dallas County on 12 April. April birding was unspectacular and by the 9th of May, the day of the Spring Bird Count, I could not believe how few migrants had arrived. Look at the species accounts to see how late the first arrivals were. Birders from all over the state were wondering what happened to the warblers. No one reported a good warbler day. Shorebird numbers also appeared to be down, although pockets were present and habitat conditions were below average. On the positive side, American Bittern numbers were increased above last-year's good showing.

UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS

Accidental species reported were Neotropic Cormorant, Glossy Ibis, Black-bellied Whistling-Duck, Greater Prairie-Chicken, Black-headed Gull, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Hummingbird species, Black-billed Magpie, and Sprague's Pipit. The hummingbird has been reviewed by the Records Committee—the evidence suggested Anna's but was not conclusive. The prairie-chicken data came from the Department of Natural Resources. The Records Committee plans to discuss the status of the introduced population in southern Iowa. The other records are pending review by the committee.

Casual species reported include White-faced Ibis (recently changed to Regular), Black-necked Stilt, and Whimbrel.

Other reports of interest include a third nesting record of Bufflehead for the state and a spring record of a Black-legged Kittiwake.

SPECIES DATA (* = documented)

Common Loon: First: 27 Mar at Maffitt Res. (PHA/RIA). Last: 29 May with 2 at Little Wall L. (HZ) and 3 at L. Hendricks in Howard Co. (RGo). Other March arrivals were 3 at Black Hawk L on the 28th (PE) and 1 on the 30th at L. Manawa (BKP/LJP). There were May sightings from 13 locations.

Horned Grebe: First: 3 on 27 Feb at Cherokee sewage ponds (DBi)[record earliest]. Last 2 on 23 May at Tomahawk M. (JJD). From 1 to 16 were found at 12 other locations from 25 March to 20 May.

Red-necked Grebe: All: 1 on 10 Apr at Amana L. (CE), 3 on 10 Apr at L. Cornelius (MPr), and 1 on 18 Apr at Little Wall L. (MPr).

Eared Grebe: First: 20 Mar at L. Manawa (BKP/LJP). Last: 24 May at Tomahawk M. (PE). From 1 to 6 were found at 12 other locations from 27 Mar to 16 May.

Western Grebe: All: 22 Apr at West Okoboji (ETH) and 31 May at Hendrickson M. (HZ, JJD, MPr).

American White Pelican: First: 15 on 29 Mar at Long Pond in Guthrie Co. (DT). High count: 1,000 south of Iowa City on 18 Apr (CE).

Double-crested Cormorant: First: 25 on 22 Mar in Sioux Co. (JV). High count: 214 at Forney L. on 26 Apr (BKP/LJP).

Neotropic Cormorant: A report will be referred to the Records Committee.

American Bittern: First: 18 Apr at Cardinal M. (DeC) and at Dunbar Sl. (MPr). From 1 to 5 were reported from 18 locations, which is far more than have been reported in recent years.

Least Bittern: First: 2 on 19 May at Camp Dodge in Polk Co. (Jane Schuster fide JJD). Other locations of single birds were Iowa L. in Hancock Co. and Gladfelter M. in Hancock Co. (Steve Fairbairn fide JJD), Riverton A. (PHA/RIA), and Harrier M. (WO).

Great Blue Heron: There were 21 nests along the Little Sioux R. in Woodbury Co. on 15 Apr (DBi) and 12 pair at the herony at West Hottes L. on 26 May (DCH).

Great Egret: First: 26 Mar in Johnson Co. (JLF). High count: 30 on 30 Apr at Waubonsie W.A. (BKP/LJP).

Snowy Egret: All: 9 Apr at Cherokee (DBi), 3 May near Booneville (PHA/RIA), 12 May at Saylorville Res. (DT), and 20 May at Kettleson Hogsback A. (CE).

Cattle Egret: First: 9 Apr at Little Wall L. (BPr). From 1 to 7 were reported at 15 locations.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: First: 10 Apr at Union Slough N.W.R. (MPr). From 1 to 4 were reported at 10 locations.

Glossy Ibis: 1 was reported from Thorpe P. in Winnebago Co. (*GD), which is the third record for Iowa.

White-faced Ibis: All: 2 on 9 May at Sandhill L. in Woodbury Co. (BFH).

Turkey Vulture: First: 3 on 25 Mar at Waubonsie S.P. (BKP/LJP). A nest with 2 eggs was found near Promise City in Wayne Co. on 13 May (Duane Bedford fide JJD).

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck: I found on 9 Apr at Tomahawk M. in Sac Co. (*RR) was relocated on 3 May and was seen at least through 19 May (*PE, *THK, *JLF, *ART, *MPr, *CE).

Greater White-fronted Goose: First (for March): 280 on 1 Mar at Dan Green Sl. (LAS). Last: 23 May at New L. (RR). Birds were seen at 6 locations in May.

Snow Goose: High count: 50,000 at Riverton A. on 25 Mar (BKP/LJP). This is a very low count compared to previous years when hundreds of thousands were typical. It has been said that in spring, most Snow Geese are now migrating though central Nebraska, so counts from Iowa may be of more interest now.

Ross's Goose: First: 2 on 21 Mar at Forney L. (BKP/LJP). Last: 3 on 4 May at Sanborn (RGr). High count: 10 on 28 Mar at Brown's L. (BFH).

Trumpeter Swan: Reports were of 2 at Cone M. on 5 Mar (JF) and 9 at Kettleson Hogsback A. on 21 May (FL). The latter were at a fenced DNR breeding area. Others that were known to be present were not reported.

Tundra Swan: First: 80 on 9 Mar at Lansing in Allamakee Co. (FL). Other flocks included 7 on 14 Mar at Cone M. (CE), 20 on 20 Mar in Kossuth Co. (MCK), and 16 on 22 Mar at Muskrat Sl. (CE).

Wood Duck: 180 (80 percent males) were loafing at Blue L. on 29 May (RR).

Gadwall: High count: 400 on 28 Mar at Brown's L. (BFH).

Blue-winged Teal: First: 2 on 21 Mar at Rathbun Res. (PHA/RIA).

Cinnamon Teal: All: 1 male on 10 Apr at Union Slough N.W.R. (MCK), 1 male on 14 Apr at Waubonsie W.A. (BKP/LJP), and a pair on 2 May at Virgin L. in Palo Alto Co. (LAS).

Northern Pintail: High count: 1,000 at Smith's Sl. in Clay Co. on 1 Mar (LAS).

Green-winged Teal: High count: 147 on 28 Mar at Brown's L. (BFH).

Canvasback: High count: 354 on 7 Mar at Saylorville Res. (BE).

Redhead: High count: 232 on 14 Mar at Saylorville Res. (BE).

Greater Scaup: All (singles): 28 Mar at Pleasant Creek L. (CE), 29 Mar at Big Creek L. (DT), 10 Apr at Beed's L. (MPr), and 9 May at Trumbull L. (LAS).

White-winged Scoter: A flock of 85 males landed briefly at Sanborn sewage ponds in O'Brien Co. on 25 Apr (*RGR).

Oldsquaw: All: 1 on 4 Apr at Union Slough N.W.R. (PHA/RIA).

Bufflehead: A female with 6 young on 31 May at Dan Green Sl. in Clay Co. (LAS) constitutes the third Iowa nesting record for this species. The previous record was at the same location in 1992.

Hooded Merganser: High count: 75 on 7 Mar at Saylorville Res. (BE).

Common Merganser: High count: 300 on 24 Mar at L. Manawa (BKP/LJP).

Red-breasted Merganser: High count: 323 on 7 Apr at Saylorville Res. (BE).

Ruddy Duck: High count: 350 on 18 Apr at Mud L. in Clay Co. (LAS).

Osprey: First: 28 Mar at Crystal L. in Hancock Co. (MPr). Last: 13 May at Coralville Res. (THK).

Mississippi Kite: All: 1 was reported at Ledges S.P. on 19 and 24 May (CE, MPr).

Bald Eagle: High counts: 66 at Coralville Res. on 21 Mar (CE), 198 at Saylorville Res. on 21 Mar (BE), and 166 at L. Manawa on 22 Mar (BKP/LJP). A pair was at a nest near Rock Rapids in Lyon Co. in March and April but abandoned it (DCH).

Cooper's Hawk: A nest was found in Ames on 8 May (JJ). There were 2 active nests in Warren Co. (JSi).

Northern Goshawk: All: immatures were reported on 7 Mar at Fallow M. and on 29 Mar at Huston P., both in Palo Alto Co. (LAS). Same bird?

Red-shouldered Hawk: 8 reports were from Benton, Boone, Cerro Gordo, Kossuth, Lee, Louisa, Lucas, and Polk counties.

Broad-winged Hawk: First: 1 on 14 Apr in Plymouth (RR). High counts: 250 on 25 Apr at Algona (MCK) and 54 on 25 Apr at Larchwood in Lyon Co. (DCH). Both of these groups roosted in town for the night.

Swainson's Hawk: First: 2 returned to the Osceola Co. nest site on 13 Apr (DBi). From 1 to 3 were seen in Dickinson, Fremont, Hancock, Monona, and Plymouth counties.

Red-tailed Hawk: On 25 Mar birds were migrating in western Iowa with 57 at Waubonsie S.P. (BKP/LJP) and 25 in Lyon and Sioux counties (JV). A Harlan's Hawk was near Hawarden on 28 Mar (JV). Two nests were found in Pottawattamie Co. on 14 Mar (JJ).

Rough-legged Hawk: Last: 27 Apr in Plymouth Co. (RR).

American Kestrel: 16 were south of Sioux City in 5 Apr (JJ).

Merlin: All: 1 Mar at Sioux Center (JV) and at Dan Green Sl. (LAS), 7 Mar at Spencer (LAS), 25 Mar at Waubonsie S.P. (BKP/LJP), and 26 Apr at Saylorville Res. (DT) and at Moeckley Prairie (BE).

Peregrine Falcon: Migrants were noted at 6 locations from 26 Apr to 29 May. A pair at Des Moines hatched 3 young in early May (JRC). A resident bird was in downtown Cedar Rapids on 12 May (JLF).

Prairie Falcon: All: 1 on 14 Mar at Snyder's Bend in Woodbury Co. (BFH-details).

Gray Partridge: Birds were reported from Cherokee, Clay, Dickinson, Monona, Palo Alto, Plymouth, Sac, Story, and Wright counties.

Ruffed Grouse: 3 were heard on 28 Mar at Stephens F. in Lucas Co. (JSi). This is an area where birds have been introduced.

Greater Prairie-Chicken: A Department of Natural Recourses report indicated 43 males in Adair, Decatur, and Ringgold counties. A female appeared to be on a nest near Kellerton in Ringgold Co. on 3 May (DT).

Northern Bobwhite: Appanoose Co. populations were said to be the lowest in 14 years (TNJ), and survey numbers were down there (RLC). In Buchanan Co., 2 were seen on 4 Apr (MPr). Game birds are not uniformly reported by contributors to the Field Reports. The DNR does a much better job of tracking them.

Yellow Rail: All: 1 on 10 Apr at Santee Prairie, which is west of Spirit L. (Maury Muham fide DCH).

Virginia Rail: All: 1 May at Rush L in Osceola Co. (PHA/RIA), 2 and 5 May at Otter Creek M. (CE, JLF), 11 May at Errington M. in Polk Co. (DT), and 16 May at Ketelsen M. in Story Co. (HZ).

Sora: First: 22 Apr at Big M. (MPr).

Common Moorhen: All: 2 on 18 May at Forney L. (THK) and 1 there on 21 May (CE).

American Coot: High count: 3,000 on 28 Mar at Snyder's Bend (BFH). It should be noted that there were not many coot counters this year.

Sandhill Crane: First: 3 on 24 Mar at Spirit L. (ETH). From 1 to 2 cranes were noted at 10 locations.

Black-bellied Plover: First: 1 on 12 May at Harrier M. (DT). Last: 1 on 31 May in Story Co. (MPr). High count: 17 on 21 May in Pocahontas Co. (DBi).

American Golden-Plover: First: 4 on 24 Mar in Buena Vista Co. (PE). Last and high count: 700 in alternate plumage on 19 May on mud flats at Spring Run in Dickinson Co. (THK).

Semipalmented Plover: First: 2 on 26 Apr at Waubonsie W.A. (BKP/LJP). Last: 1 on 31 May at Maynard Reece W.A. in Kossuth Co. (MCK). High count: 50 on 18 May at Coralville Res. (CE).

Piping Plover: Resident birds were first noted at Port Neal in Woodbury Co. on 18 Apr (BFH) and at the MidAmerican Energy plant in Pottawattamie Co. on 21 May (CE). This discrepancy in dates is strange, because many birders visit the latter location looking for this species.

Killdeer: Many arrived in February this year, but 31 were migrating over Ames in a snowstorm on 24 Mar (JJD), and 46 were at Sandhill L. in Woodbury Co. on 28 Mar.

Black-necked Stilt: All: 1 on 28 Apr at Mark Twain N.W.R. in Louisa Co. (*TJu)[2nd earliest].

American Avocet: First and high counts: 26 Apr with 2 at Kettleson Hogsback A. in Dickinson Co. (LAS, JJ), 62 in Woodbury Co. (BFH), and 99 at three location in Fremont Co. (BKP/LJP). Last: 31 May in Kossuth Co. (MCK).

Greater Yellowlegs: First: 26 Mar at Coralville Res. (JLF). Last: 17 May in Appanoose Co. (RLC).

Lesser Yellowlegs: First: 26 Mar at Coralville Res. (JLF). Last: 2 on 31 May in Appanoose Co. (TNJ).

Solitary Sandpiper: First: 18 Apr in Appanoose Co. (RLC).

Willet: First: 19 Apr at Trumbull L. (LAS). Last: 12 May at Long Pond in Guthrie Co. (DT). High counts: on 30 Apr, 16 at Zirbel Sl. (RGo) and 17 at Port Neal (PHA/RIA).

Spotted Sandpiper: First: 28 Apr at Hubbard (MPr).

Upland Sandpiper: First: 26 Apr in Johnson Co. (CE).

Whimbrel: All: 1 at Spirit L. on 20 May (PS-photo).

Hudsonian Godwit: First: 26 Apr at Riverton A. (BKP/LJP). Last: 31 May near Hendrickson M (HZ). High count: 16 on 30 Apr at Riverton A. (BKP/LJP). Other reports were from Coralville Res., with 12 on 13 May (JLF) and 7 on 18 May (CE), from Jemmerson Sl. with 9 on 15 May, and from Hallett's Quarry with 8 on 16 May (HZ). This species is usually found in much greater numbers, especially in western Iowa in mid-May where one observer saw 450 in one day last year and none this year (THK).

Marbled Godwit: All: 2 on 18 May at Coralville Res. (CE) and 1 on 23 May at Dunbar Sl. (JJD-details).

Ruddy Turnstone: All: 25 May at Sweet M. (MPr) and 29 May at Rathbun Res. (TNJ).

Sanderling: All: 8 on 18 May at Coralville Res. (CE).

Semipalmented Sandpiper: First: 2 on 26 Apr at Waubonsie W.A. (BKP/LJP). High count: 140 on 31 May at Sedan A. in Appanoose Co. (TNJ).

Least Sandpiper: Last: 12 on 31 at Maynard Reece W.A. in Kossuth Co. (MCK).

White-rumped Sandpiper: First: 4 on 18 May at Coralville Res. (CE). High count: 110 on 31 May at Maynard Reece W.A. (MCK).

Baird's Sandpiper: First: 2 on 26 Mar at Coralville Res. (JLF). Last: 1 on 18 May at Coralville Res. (CE). High count: 36 on 26 Apr at Waubonsie W.A. (BKP/LJP).

Pectoral Sandpiper: First: 4 Apr in Sac Co. (PE).

Dunlin: First: 2 May at Big M. (MPr). High count: 50 on 18 May at Coralville Res. (CE).

- Stilt Sandpiper:** First: 2 on 13 May at Green Island W.A. (CE).
- Short-billed Dowitcher:** First: 8 on 15 May in Sac Co. (PE). Last: 4 on 31 May in Appanoose Co. (TNJ). High count: 80 on 18 May at Coralville Res. (CE).
- Long-billed Dowitcher:** First: 1 on 7 Apr at Colo Ponds (MPr). Last: 3 on 17 May at Colo Ponds (HZ; JJD, PHA/RIA)[record latest]. High count: 50 on 30 Apr at Riverton A. (BKP/LJP). The record late birds were heard to call "keek", but no description was provided.
- Common Snipe:** First: 2 on 28 Mar in Buena Vista Co. (PE). High count: 45 on 5 Apr in Appanoose Co. (RLC).
- American Woodcock:** First: 2 Mar at St. Anthony in Marshall Co. (JJD).
- Wilson's Phalarope:** First: 27 in Fremont Co. (BKP/LJP). Last: 31 May at Maynard Reece W.A. (MCK). High count: 23 at Riverton A. on 30 Apr (BKP/LJP) and at Blue Wing M. in Palo Alto Co. on 16 May (LAS).
- Red-necked Phalarope:** All: 23 May in Sac Co. (JJD).
- Franklin's Gull:** First: 1 in alternate plumage on 1 Mar at Big Creek L. (PHA/RIA) was quite early, but winter and early spring records of this species are on the increase. High count: 100 on 30 Apr at Forney L. (BKP/LJP).
- Bonaparte's Gull:** First: 3 on 26 Mar at Coralville Res. (JLF). Last: 6 on 26 Apr at Colo Ponds (HZ).
- Black-headed Gull:** An adult was at Kettleson Hogsback A. on 17 May (*ETH).
- Ring-billed Gull:** High count: 5,000 on 24 Mar at L. Manawa (BKP/LJP). Certainly more went unreported at the large reservoirs in Iowa.
- Herring Gull:** 1 was still present in Appanoose Co. on 31 May (RLC).
- Thayer's Gull:** All: A first-year bird was found at Lost Island L. in Palo Alto Co. on 18 Apr and possibly the same bird was at Spring Run in Dickinson Co. on 2 May (LAS-details)[record latest by over a month].
- Glaucous Gull:** All: 1 imm. on 28 Mar at Marble L. in Dickinson Co. (ETH-details).
- Black-legged Kittiwake:** All: A first-year bird was at Rathbun Res. on 26 Apr (*RLC, *TNJ), which, if accepted, will be the first spring record for Iowa and one of few from the Midwest.
- Caspian Tern:** First: 3 on 3 May at Saylorville Res. (PHA/RIA). Last: 1 on 30 May at Trumbull L (LAS). High count: 35 on 24 May at Union Slough N.W.R. (MCK).
- Common Tern:** All: 1 on 9 May at Trumbull L. (LAS), 1 on 19 May at Jemmerson Sl. (THK), 1 on 23 May at Saylorville Res. (BE), 2 on 24 May at Union Slough N.W.R. (MCK), and 3 on 31 May at Port Neal (BFH).
- Forster's Tern:** First: 6 on 26 Apr at Kettleson Hogsback A. (JJ). High count: 30 at Cardinal M. on 6 May (DeC).
- Least Tern:** All: 1 on 18 and 21 and 2 on 30 May at MidAmerican Energy plant in Pottawattamie Co. (THK, CE, BKP/LRJ), 1 on 23 May at Port Neal in Woodbury Co. (RR), and 1 at Rathbun Res. on 30, 31 May (TNJ, RLC).
- Black Tern:** First: 8 May at Hallett's Quarry (JJD). High count: 613 on 16 May at Saylorville Res. (BE).
- Eurasian Collared-Dove:** From 1 to 2 continued to be present at Grinnell in March, April, and May (m.ob.).
- Black-billed Cuckoo:** First: 18 May at Coralville Res. (CE).
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** First: 10 May in Lee Co. (CE). Several observers noted that cuckoos were common, especially yellow-billeds.
- Barn Owl:** 1 was at the usual location east of Bedford in Taylor Co. on 25 May (PHA/RIA).
- Long-eared Owl:** Last: 1 on 18 Apr s. of Mapleton in Monona Co. Others include 1 on 10 Mar at Cone M. (THK), 25 on 10 Mar at Rathbun Res. with 8 remaining on 28 Mar (TNJ), 1 at Spirit Lake on 31 Mar (ETH), and 4 on 3 Apr at Oak Grove P. in Sioux Co. (JV).
- Short-eared Owl:** All: 1 on 29 Mar at Dunbar Sl. (DT) and 1 on 14 May at Walnut Creek N.W.R. (Kathy Andersen, Liessa Thomas fide JJD).
- Northern Saw-whet Owl:** All: 1 on 4 Mar at Big M. (MPr), 3 on 22 Mar and 1 on 25 Mar at Moorehead P. (PE), and 1 on 29 Mar at Huston P. in Palo Alto Co. (LAS).
- Common Nighthawk:** First: 8 May in Appanoose Co. (RLC).

- Chuck-will's-widow:** Birds were present at the usual location in Fremont Co. on 17 and 21 May (THK, CE). A bird heard at Cedar Rapids in Linn Co. on 22 May (Neil Bernstein fide JJD) is much more unusual.
- Whip-poor-will:** First: 1 on 25 Apr at Croton Unit in Lee Co. was flushed from the ground (THK).
- Chimney Swift:** First: 21 Apr at L. Manawa (BKP/LJP).
- Hummingbird species:** A hummingbird was found in a greenhouse on 31 Mar at Le Claire in Scott Co. by John A. Schmitz. The record was accepted as Hummingbird sp. by the Records Committee. The bird was released. The brief notes suggest that the bird may have been an Anna's Hummingbird.
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** First: 3 May at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (DCP).
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** Birds were at nest holes in Spencer on 9 May (LAS) and Mason City on 10 May (RGo).
- Pileated Woodpecker:** A nest was found at Ledges S.P. on 26 Apr and young were being fed there on 25 May (JJD). There were also reports from Appanoose, Lucas, Van Buren, and Kossuth counties.
- Olive-sided Flycatcher:** First: 13 May at Grammer Grove W.A. (BPr). Last: 26 May in Emmet Co. (DHe).
- Eastern Wood-Pewee:** First: 2 on 11 May at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (CE).
- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** All: 20 May at A. A. Call S.P. (MPr), 25 May at Hickory Hill P. (CE), 25 May at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr), and 27 May at Sioux Center (JV).
- Acadian Flycatcher:** First: 10 May at Croton Unit (CE). Others were at Yellow River F. (CE), Geode S. P. (PHA/RIA), and north of Stone City in Jones Co. (CE).
- Alder Flycatcher:** First and last: 18 and 25 May at Grammer Grove W.A. (BPr, MPr).
- Willow Flycatcher:** All: 11 May at Red Feather Prairie in Polk Co. (DT), 24 May in Appanoose Co. (RLC), and 25 May at Hickory Hill P. (CE).
- Least Flycatcher:** First: 5 May at Grammer Grove W.A. (BPr).
- Eastern Phoebe:** First: 25 Mar at Riverton A. (BKP/LJP).
- Great Crested Flycatcher:** First: 6 May at Coralville Res. (CE).
- Western Kingbird:** First: 9 May at State Capitol in Des Moines where birds have been present for several years (PHA/RIA). The only other report away from the western edge of the state was at Christopherson S1, in Dickinson Co. on 17 May (LAS).
- Eastern Kingbird:** First: 27 Apr at Otter Creek M. (MPr).
- Northern Shrike:** All: singles on 7 Mar, at Saylorville Res. (DT) and in Clay Co. (LAS).
- White-eyed Vireo:** All: 10 May at Croton Unit in Lee Co. (CE).
- Bell's Vireo:** First: 10 May at Saylorville Res. (JRC). Other reports were from Appanoose, Plymouth, Polk, Hamilton, and Winneshiek counties.
- Blue-headed Vireo:** First: 5 May at West Des Moines (PHA/RIA) and Grammer Grove W.A. (BPr).
- Philadelphia Vireo:** First: 10 May Saylorville Res. (JRC). Last: 25 May at Hickory Hill P. (CE) and in Warren Co. (JSI).
- Red-eyed Vireo:** First: 9 May at L. Macbride (CE).
- Black-billed Magpie:** All: 2 were present on 30 Apr at last year's nesting site in Plymouth Co. (PHA/RIA-details).
- Purple Martin:** First: 2 on 11 Apr at Eldon in Wapello Co. (MPr).
- Tree Swallow:** First: 25 Mar, with 5 at L. Sugema in Van Buren Co. (MPr) and 6 at Riverton A. (BKP/LJP).
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** First: 2 on 21 Apr at L. Manawa (BKP/LJP).
- Red-breasted Nuthatch:** Last: 11 May at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr). Reports at 11 locations of 1 to 3 birds at scattered dates from mid-March to mid-May are less than would be expected after last fall's invasion.
- Brown Creeper:** 1 at Sioux Center on 2 Mar (JV) may have been an early migrant.
- Carolina Wren:** The only bird from the northern half of the state was at Cherokee on 28 Mar (DBi).
- Bewick's Wren:** All: 1 on 10 Apr at Fairfield (DCP).
- House Wren:** First: 17 Apr at Fairfield (DCP).
- Winter Wren:** 1 was banded at Cherokee on 28 Mar (DBi). Other reports were from April, except for 2 on 28 Mar at Stephens F. in Lucas Co. (JSI).
- Sedge Wren:** First: 9 May at Big M. (MPr).

Marsh Wren: First: 30 Apr at Fomey L. (BKP/LJP).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: First: 26 Mar at Mason City (JLW)[ties 3rd earliest]. Last: 17 May in Story Co. (MPr).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: First: on 11 Apr at Croton Unit and at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (PHA/RIA).

Veery: First: 10 May at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr).

Gray-cheeked Thrush: First: 10 May at A. A. Call S.P. (MCK).

Swainson's Thrush: First: 6 May Coralville Res. (CE).

Hermit Thrush: First: 4 Apr in Sioux (JV), Johnson (CE), and Buchanan (MPr) counties.

Wood Thrush: First: 6 May in Polk Co. (JRC, PHA/RIA).

American Robin: High count: 500 at Coralville Res. on 25 Mar (CE).

Gray Catbird: First: 5 May at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (DCP).

Northern Mockingbird: Northerly birds of note were at Hallett's Quarry in Story Co. on 2 May (WO), Hardin Co. on 8 May (MPr), O'Brien Co. on 8 May (RGr), and Fayette Co. on 31 May (FLM). May is the typical month for birds to occur north of the usual range, but the number reported this year is slightly more than usual.

Brown Thrasher: First: 1 Apr at Mason City (JLW).

American Pipit: First: 13 on 29 Mar at Big Creek L. (DT). Last: 18 on 11 May at Colo Ponds (HZ).

Sprague's Pipit: A report is referred to the Records Committee.

Blue-winged Warbler: First: 6 on 2 May at Croton Unit (RLC, TNJ).

Golden-winged Warbler: First: 6 May at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr). Last: 25 May at Amana Woods (CE).

Tennessee Warbler: First: 2 May at West Des Moines (PHA/RIA).

Orange-crowned Warbler: First: 1 on 12 Apr at Voas N.A. in Dallas Co. (MJ)[record earliest]. Another was at Mather's F. in Floyd Co. on 17 Apr (JLW).

Nashville Warbler: First: 26 Apr at Cone M. (CE).

Northern Parula: First: 12 Apr at Voas N.A. in Dallas Co. (MJ)[2nd earliest].

Yellow Warbler: First: 6 May at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr).

Chestnut-sided Warbler: First: 11 May at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (CE).

Magnolia Warbler: First: 10 May at Liscomb (MPr).

Cape May Warbler: First: 2 on 10 May at Spencer (LAS). From 1 to 3 were reported at 5 other locations from 11 to 13 May.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: All: 12 May at Mason City (RGo).

Yellow-rumped Warbler: First: 4 Apr at Line Creek N.C. (MPr).

Black-throated Green Warbler: First: 5 May at Grammer Grove W.A. (BPr).

Blackburnian Warbler: First: 10 May at Martin's Access in Cherokee Co. (PE).

Yellow-throated Warbler: First: 11 Apr at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (MPr, PHA/RIA)[ties 3rd earliest]. Other locations were at Red Bird Farm in Johnson Co. (JLF), Walnut Woods in Polk Co. (JRC, PHA/RIA), and Ledges S. P. (m.ob.). Nest building was observed at Walnut Woods on 9 May (PHA/RIA).

Prairie Warbler: Birds returned to last year's locations at L. Macbride on 9 May (CE) and near Mud Creek P. in Henry Co. on 19 May (*PHA/RIA).

Palm Warbler: First: 30 Apr at Diamond L. (MPr). Last: 25 May at Moorehead P. (PE-details)[3rd latest].

Bay-breasted Warbler: First: 15 May at Decorah (DeC).

Blackpoll Warbler: First: 25 Apr at Moorehead P. (PE-details)[record earliest].

Cerulean Warbler: First: 25 Apr at Croton Unit (THK). From 1 to 4 birds were reported from 10 locations. The most unusual was at Wanata S. P. in Clay Co. on 31 May (LAS).

Black-and-white Warbler: First: 12 Apr at Voas N.A. (MJ).

American Redstart: First: 7 May at Otter Creek M. (MPr).

Prothonotary Warbler: First: 9 May at Dudgeon L. (MPr). In Dickinson Co. birds were found at West Okoboji on 16 May (JJ) and at Kettleson Hogsback A. on 17, 19, and 20 May (ETh, THK, CE).

Worm-eating Warbler: All: 2 at Croton Unit on 10 May (CE) and 1 at Wildcat Den S.P. on 12 May (CE).

Ovenbird: First: 3 May in Cedar Co. (CE).

Northern Waterthrush: First: 2 May in Iowa Co. (CE).

Louisiana Waterthrush: First: 5 Apr in Appanoose Co. (RLC). Others were at typical locations: Croton Unit, Lacey-Keosauqua S.P., Wildcat Den S.P., Amana Woods, near Stone City, Ledges S.P., Woodland Mounds in Warren Co., Ringgold W.A., Waubonsie S.P. and near Turin in Monona Co.

Kentucky Warbler: First: 10 May at Croton Unit (CE). Others were at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P., Yellow River F., near Stone City, Des Moines, and Waubonsie S.P.

Connecticut Warbler: All: 15 and 30 May at George Wyth S.P. (FLM), 21 May at A. A. Call S.P. (MCK), 24 May at Hickory Hill P. (JLF), and 24 May at Ledges S.P. (MPr).

Mourning Warbler: First: 11 May at Mason City (RGo). Last: 27 May at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr). There were reports from 6 other locations.

Common Yellowthroat: First: 2 May at Otter Creek M. (CE).

Hooded Warbler: All: 21 May at Kettleson Hogsback A. in Dickinson Co. (ETH), 25 May at Des Moines (BE), and at L. Ahquabi in Warren Co. (JSi, 2 territorial males).

Wilson's Warbler: First: 4 May at Moorehead P. (PE). Last: 31 May at Liscomb (MPr)[ties latest x 3]. Another was at Trumbull L. on 30 May (LAS).

Canada Warbler: First: 23 May at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr). High count: 5 on 25 May at Moorehead P. (PE).

Yellow-breasted Chat: All: 11 May at Saylorville Res. (DT), 14 May in Warren Co. (JSi), and 19 May at Ledges S.P. (CE).

Summer Tanager: The wintering Iowa City bird remained until 5 Mar (Mary Noble fide THK). Others were at usual locations: 2 on 3 May (DCP) and 4 on 10 May at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (CE); 3 on 21 May at Waubonsie S.P. (CE); and 1 on 25 May in Warren Co. (JSi).

Scarlet Tanager: First: 6 May at Brown's Woods (JRC).

Spotted Towhee: All: 1 was at a feeder in Plymouth Co. from 5 to 18 May (RR)[ties 2nd latest].

American Tree Sparrow: Last: 18 Apr in Clay Co. (LAS).

Chipping Sparrow: First: 2 Apr in Plymouth Co. (RR).

Clay-colored Sparrow: First: 25 Apr at Clive (JRC) and in Plymouth Co. (RR). Others were noted at 5 locations.

Field Sparrow: First: 2 on 26 Mar in Johnson Co. (JLF).

Vesper Sparrow: First: 1 on 25 Mar at Coralville Res. (CE).

Savannah Sparrow: First: 3 Apr in Sioux Co. (JV).

Grasshopper Sparrow: First: 25 Apr near Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (MPr).

Henslow's Sparrow: First: 18 Apr in Appanoose Co. (RLC). Others were at the usual Van Buren Co. location near Lacey-Keosauqua S.P.

Le Conte's Sparrow: All: 29 Apr at Copp Prairie in Kossuth Co. (MCK), 2 May at Big M. (MPr), and 16 May at Santee Prairie in Dickinson Co. (DCH).

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow: All: 1 on 17 May at Red Feather Prairie in Polk Co. (DT).

Fox Sparrow: First: 2 Mar at Sioux Center (JV). High count: 200 on 4 Apr in Clay Co. (LAS). I would have thought that 20 was a very large number for one day.

Lincoln's Sparrow: First: 2 Apr at West Des Moines (PHA/RIA)[2nd earliest].

White-throated Sparrow: High count: 200 on 26 Apr roosting in the Algona cemetery (MCK).

Harris's Sparrow: Northeast Iowa reports were of 2 on 4 Apr in Buchanan Co. (MPr) and 1 on 6 May at L. Meyer in Winneshiek CO. (DeC).

Dark-eyed Junco: Last: 27 Apr in Marshall Co. (MPr). Large numbers were in Sioux Center on 4 Apr with most gone the next day. Oregon juncos were at Decorah on 1 Mar (DeC) and Sioux Center on 12 Apr (JV), and an albino junco was at Sioux Center from 2 Mar to 4 Apr (JV).

Lapland Longspur: On 1 Mar, 150 were in Polk and 500 in Guthrie counties (PHA/RIA). On 3 Mar, thousands were in Sioux Co. with pure flocks of 500 (JV). On 10 Mar, 5,000 were in one group in Muscatine Co. (THK). The only other report was of 10 in Kossuth Co. on 24 Apr (MCK).

Smith's Longspur: All: 100 on 24 Apr at Maynard Reece W.A. in Kossuth Co. (MCK).

Snow Bunting: All: 4 on 8 Mar in Kossuth Co. (MCK).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: First: 2 on 6 May at Coralville Res. (CE).

Blue Grosbeak: All: near Forney L. on 18 May (THK), near Melvin in Osceola Co. on 25 May (DCH), a female singing at Secret L. in Fremont Co. on 26 May (PHA/RIA), and in Monona Co. near Onawa on 30 May (MJ) and near Turin on 31 May (JRC).

Indigo Bunting: First: 3 May in Plymouth Co. (RR).

Dickcissel: First: 26 Apr in Johnson Co. (CE)[3rd earliest].

Bobolink: First: 6 May at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr). A female was on a nest at Kettleson Hogsback A. on 20 May (CE).

Eastern Meadowlark: On 4 Apr, easterns were heard at 4 locations in Clay, Palo Alto, and Dickinson counties (LAS).

Western Meadowlark: First arrivals were noted in Plymouth Co. on 13 Mar (RR).

Yellow-headed Blackbird: First: 18 Apr at Otter Creek M. (RV/CV).

Rusty Blackbird: First: 8 on 14 Mar at Cone M. (CE).

Brewer's Blackbird: All: 1 male on 29 Mar at Dunbar Sl. (DT).

Great-tailed Grackle: The first bird was at Cone M. in February (see winter reports). High count: 174 on 14 Apr at Waubonsie W.A. (BKP/LJP). This species, now widespread, was reported from the following counties: Boone, Clay, Dickinson, Fremont, Greene, Guthrie, Hamilton, Hancock, Louisa, Marion, Monona, Pottawattamie, Sac, and Tama.

Orchard Oriole: First: 9 May at L. Macbride (CE).

Baltimore Oriole: First: 2 May at Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. (DCP) and at Grammer Grove W.A. (MPr).

Purple Finch: There were 4 reports from Apr. We need more data on this species.

White-winged Crossbill: All: 4 on 2 Mar at Grinnell (MPr), 5 on 15 Mar and 1 on 27 Mar at Algona (MCK), 1 on 27 Mar at Story City (HZ), and 1 molting immature from 2 to 21 May at West Des Moines (PHA, RIA-photos)[record latest].

Common Redpoll: All: 6 on 6 Mar and 1 on 15 Mar at Algona (MCK), 2 on 10 Mar at Marshalltown (Betty Savage fide MPr), 4 on 13 Mar at George in Lyon Co. (JV), 5 on 24 Mar at Spirit Lake (ETh), and 2 on 29 Mar at L. Meyer in Winneshiek Co. (DeC).

Pine Siskin: Last: 2 on 22 May at Cherokee (DBi). High count: 40 until early May at Missouri Valley (RR). From 2 to 6 were reported at 11 locations, suggesting that Pine Siskins were present in relatively small numbers this year. Nesting building was observed at Sioux City on 27 Mar (BFH).

Evening Grosbeak: All: 1 on 19 Apr at Fairfield (DCP).

Eurasian Tree Sparrow: 2 were at Allen Green Refuge in Des Moines Co. on 10 Apr (PHA/RIA), which is in the Mississippi floodplain where this species is usually found.

COMMENT

The data comprised 40 reports and 19 documentations (of 11 species). I made 1,254 entries into a computerized database, which is 16% less than last year. Some of the decrease in the amount of data can be accounted for by the absence of one active observer (Steve Dinsmore). I often wonder how well the data represents the birds present in the state. Almost every contributor provides sightings that add to the depth of the report. If the number of contributions were doubled, this would undoubtedly affect the early and late dates and add several species to the report.

In spite of reservations about the consistency of sampling of Iowa birds in a season, the spring of 1998 was unusual. Perhaps the national data, as published in *Field Notes* by the American Birding Association, will give clues as to why the passerine migration was so late and thin this year. Can our observations be related to El Nino or to the fires in Mexico?

CONTRIBUTORS (* = documentation only)

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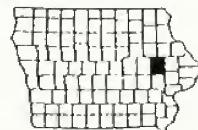
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211 Richards St., Iowa City, IA 52246

RED-THROATED LOON AT PLEASANT CREEK

CHRIS EDWARDS

On 13 April 1997, John Daniel and Ken Lowder reported a Red-throated Loon at Pleasant Creek State Recreation Area in Linn County. Eager to see this species for the first time, I drove to Pleasant Creek the next morning. After a quick search, I located the bird swimming and diving in a small inlet about 50 yards from shore.



The loon was in basic (winter) plumage. The crown was blackish, fading to a narrow gray strip down the hindneck. The crown and hindneck were noticeably lighter colored than the back, which was black with many small white spots. The face, including the area immediately above the eye, was white. The throat and the front and sides of the neck were white. The division between the dark hindneck and white neck was indistinct and not sharply defined. The sides were mostly white mottled with black. The bill was relatively short and thin, dark gray, had a slightly upturned lower mandible, and was held just above the horizontal. The eye appeared dark, and the legs and feet were black. There were no other birds nearby for a size comparison.

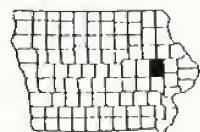
The bird was seen by many observers and was last reported on 10 May. The Red-throated Loon is currently classified as Casual in Iowa. This represents only the sixth spring record and the twentieth accepted record overall. The majority of sightings have occurred from late October to early December. Because of its lengthy stay, this bird was the second earliest and the record latest spring record.

85 Whitman Ave., North Liberty, IA 52317

IMMATURE FEMALE RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD AT CEDAR RAPIDS

THOMAS H. KENT

This hummingbird first appeared at the feeder of Barbara and Nick Stark at 238 24th Street in Cedar Rapids in Linn County on 27 October 1995 (Stone 1995). It was reported to Weir Nelson on 4 November and reported to the Birdline by Jim Durbin the same day (fide Jim Fuller). From 4 to 25 November it was said to have been seen by at least 150 people (Stone 1995). Documentations were submitted by myself, Jim Fuller, Chris Edwards, and Pete Petersen. Photographs were submitted by myself, Jim Durbin, and Rob Bradley.



This average-sized hummingbird was generally gray below and green above with rufous coloration from the bend of the wing down the flanks to the undertail area. The bill was straight, thin, and black. The face had a small white patch behind the eye. The throat was delineated by fine rows of streaks with a larger central spot that was occasionally perceived as red. The tips of the outer tail feathers were white. The bird made high-pitched metallic chip notes, singly or in series. It spent most of the time sitting in bushes along the edge of the yard with intermittent visits to the hummingbird feeder. During the time the bird was present, temperatures fell into the teens and snow was on the ground.

On 25 November the bird was mist netted and photographed by Rob Bradley and taken to the greenhouse at Kirkwood Community College. These photographs, along with documentations and a photo taken on 5 November in the yard (Figures 1, 2), were sent to an outside expert for evaluation (Newfield 1996).

On 22 April 1996, I learned that the bird had appeared to be doing well in the greenhouse until 22 December 1995, when it was found dead. It was placed in a freezer by Jodeane Cancilla, who later delivered it to me. I had contacted Jim Dinsmore concerning instructions for depositing the specimen at Iowa State University. Before delivering the specimen to Dinsmore, I took the measurements and photographs that would be critical for identification.

The rufous on the sides and undertail coverts easily placed this bird in the genus *Selasphorus*, and the bright rufous undertail coverts excluded two members of that genus: Broad-tailed and Calliope (Newfield 1996). The other two species, Rufous and Allen's, are very similar in appearance to each other and only adult males are readily separated in the field. Adult males have red gorgets and differ in back color (rufous in Rufous, green in Allen's).



Fig. 1. Rufous Hummingbird at feeder,
Cedar Rapids. Jim Durbin

Adult females, immature males, and immature females are distinguished from each other by throat markings and color of central tail feathers (Stiles 1972, Heidcamp 1997). These findings are difficult to impossible to determine in the field. Once age and sex are determined, measurements (length of wing, tail, and culmen, width of first and fifth rectrices) and shape of the tip of the second rectrix are used to separate Rufous and Allen's hummingbirds.

The photographs taken at the feeder by Jim Durbin and after netting by Rob Bradley show the throat with fine rows of dots, which are finer centrally and toward the chin, and one or more small central spots (Figures 3, 4). This pattern is similar to that in the photographs of immature females published by Heidcamp (1997). The photographs taken at the time of netting, also show a lack of rufous in the central rectrices and rump, which also suggest that the bird is a female. The species identity would require measurements.

I used the tables presented by Heidcamp (1997), which are derived from Stiles (1972), and the black-and-white line drawings in Stiles (1972) to determine the age, sex, and the species represented by the specimen. The lightly stippled throat with a few (hard to determine how many) spots centrally (reported as red in life) suggest immature female (adult females have more red spots centrally and immature males have more evenly distributed red spots).

Rectrix #1 (middle) was mostly green with rufous on outer half of the proximal 40% and a tiny faint bufftip (Figure 5). Immature males have over 66% rufous on this feather and adult females lack the bufftip. Rectrix #2 had a small but distinct white tip characteristic of immature females and lacked emargination (indenting) found in most adult females and immature males. Rectrix #5 was white at the tip (20%), black in the middle (30%), and rufous at the base (50%). This feather is less useful for determining age and sex. One would think that examination of the gonads would be the best way to determine sex, but Dinsmore was not able to locate them when he dissected the specimen, probably because the gonads of an immature hummingbird are very small.



Fig. 2. Resting in bush, 5 Nov. 1995. T. H. Kent.



Fig. 3. Throat pattern, 25 November 1995. Rob Bradley.



Fig. 4. Undertail pattern, 25 November 1995. Rob Bradley.

The following measurements were obtained and are compared with those given in Heidcamp (1997) for immature females (Allen's/Rufous): exposed culmen 17 mm (<15.8/>18.4); wing chord 46 mm (<42.8/>43.6); tail 26 mm (<24.2/>25.0); width rectrix #1 9.0 mm (<7.8/>8.2); and width rectrix #5 4.5 mm (<3.2/>3.3). All of the measurements are greater than would be found in Allen's (included adult females and immature males, which are smaller than immature females), and only the length of the culmen falls short of the range for Rufous.

In conclusion, this hummingbird is an immature female based on coloration of the throat and tail and a Rufous based on measurements. Although late fall *Selasphorus* hummingbirds in Iowa would be expected to be immatures and Rufous, proving that a bird is not the much-less-likely Allen's is exceedingly difficult and probably requires a specimen. A netted bird might be identified with good photographs of the throat, upper tail and rump, and spread tail feathers; measurements of culmen, wing chord, tail, and width of rectrices #1 and #5; and examination of color and shape of plucked rectrices #1, #2, and #5. Sorting through the published data and photographs is very useful, but more easily said than done.

This is the sixth confirmed record of *Selasphorus* hummingbird for Iowa. All were adult males except for the current record and the first bird, which was not identified as to species (Kent and Dinsmore 1996). Rufous Hummingbird is a regular fall vagrant to the eastern United States; the one spring record from Iowa is very unusual. A seventh record is from 1996. Allen's Hummingbird occurs on the West Coast with scattered fall/winter records from the Gulf Coast and an unusual record from Massachusetts (Andrews and Baltosser 1989).

The fact that we have information on this bird is the result of an incredible effort by many individuals, and I would especially like to thank Barbara and Nick Stark, Weir Nelson, Jim Durbin, Jim Fuller, Chris Edwards, Pete Petersen, Larry Stone, Rob Bradley, Jodeane Cancilla, Nancy L. Newfield, Jim Dinsmore, and many others who saw the bird or cared for it.

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Fig. 5. Rectrices #1, #2, and #5.
Rictrix #1 is widest. T. H. Kent.

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211 Richards Street, Iowa City, IA 52246

RUFous HUMMINGBIRD IN DICKINSON COUNTY

RUTH WINEBRINNER

On a beautiful summer morning, 21 August 1996, my husband Ed and I were enjoying breakfast on the deck of our home on the north shore of Spirit Lake in Dickinson County. My husband commented that he had seen a funny looking hummingbird that appeared brown. In a few minutes I saw the bird at our feeder and immediately got out my binoculars and field guide. After watching the bird for several minutes, I was sure that I was looking at a male Rufous Hummingbird. The most obvious difference from the Ruby-throated Hummingbirds that regularly visit our feeders was that much of its body including its back, tail, and belly were copper orange in color. The throat was a bright iridescent reddish orange with a band of white separating the throat from the copper orange of the belly.

I watched the bird for about an hour that afternoon as it fed at the hummingbird feeder and then flew to a nearby tree where it perched and preened. I called the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and the next morning Ed Thelen came by and photographed the bird. On the 23rd, the bird spent much of its time perched on a barbed wire fence 15 feet from the feeder and challenged any hummingbird that came close to the feeder. My husband raises flowers, and the Rufous Hummingbird took over a bed of red salvia near the feeder. He also visited the grape jelly we had at our feeder station. I last saw the Rufous Hummingbird about 10 a.m. on the 23rd but during the 2 1/2 days he was there, I did little else but watch him. He brought much joy to me and the others who got to see him during this once-in-a-lifetime happening.

24535 104th Street, Spirit Lake, IA 51360



Fig. 1. Rufous Hummingbird at Spirit Lake,
22 Aug. 1996. Ed Thelen.

ANOTHER BLACK-HEADED GULL IN DICKINSON COUNTY

MARK PROESCHOLDT

In 1997, for the third summer out of four years, an adult Black-headed Gull appeared in Dickinson County. The first sighting in Dickinson County was August 1994 when two adults and one juvenile were seen. In June and July of 1996, an adult was seen, and in July 1997 an adult was seen.



On the morning of 16 July 1997, Ed Thelen literally tracked me down in my car when he caught up to me with his vehicle and told me that he had just seen an adult Black-headed Gull at the Jemmerson Slough area in Dickinson County. This gull had been seen by others for some days prior to 16 July and had been reported to the Birdline.

I located the gull around 10:20 a.m. It was at a small wet area across the road from Jemmerson Slough where there was land available for gulls to roost. The gull had a noticeable dark brown head similar to the shape of a Bonaparte's Gull's hood that ended higher up on the back of the neck than does the hood of a Franklin's Gull. It had a dull red bill, red inside its mouth, and was smaller than Ring-billed Gulls that were with it. It had a light gray back. From a distance of 130 yards, I could see no white eye crescents with my scope while the eye crescents of nearby Franklin's Gulls were very vivid.

I saw it fly over a nearby pond, and the wings looked long. I could see dark smudges at the ends of the underwings and also white slashes or small wedges (like a Bonaparte's Gulls) at the tips of the upper wings. It also had a bright white leading edge on the upper wings.

This is the fifth record of a Black-headed Gull in Iowa. The other two sightings were November 1989 at Saylorville Reservoir in Polk County and November 1994 at Big Creek State Park in Polk County.

P. O. Box 65, Liscomb, IA 50148

SUMMER SABINE'S GULL RECORD

LEE A. SCHOENEWE

On 8 July 1997, the Northern Iowa Prairie Lakes Audubon chapter met at Mini Wakan State Park at the north end of Spirit Lake in Dickinson County. After a picnic supper and meeting, the group discussed doing a little birding. On 4 July, I had found, for the second year in a row, a Black-headed Gull hanging out with about 100 Franklin's Gulls at the swan pen wetland enclosure at the Hogsback WPA area (see note by Proescholdt in this issue). Some people had never seen the gull, and it is always a good spot, so off we went.



We set up the scope and found the Black-headed Gull. As people took turns with the view in the scope, I scanned the other gulls in the area. I then noticed a small gull flying over the water and alighting on the surface to feed. The behavior along with the distinctive black, white, and gray wedge-shaped pattern of the wings and back in flight identified it as a Sabine's Gull.

The tail was short, white and slightly forked, and the legs were black. The hood was dark gray with indistinct white splotches, and the bill was all dark which led me to conclude that this was a first-summer bird in alternate plumage.

Sabine's Gull is a casual fall migrant in the interior United States and, according to *Birds in Iowa*, the few birds to be found in spring and July are presumed to be migrating adults. A first-summer bird and a first summer date for Iowa made this sighting particularly significant. This was the second sighting of a Sabine's Gull in Dickinson County with the first being an immature bird photographed by Ed Thelen on 2 October 1996.

For me and the group of people attending the July Audubon chapter meeting, it was a rare summer gull experience times two!

518 W 4th Street, Spencer, IA 51301

PINE GROSBEAK IN IDA COUNTY

CURTIS L. RECTOR

At 2:15 p.m. on 5 November 1997, while driving my bus route, I saw a chunky, pinkish colored bird in a fruit tree near Somerset Apartments in Holstein. Its wings were black with white wingbars, and the beak was dark-colored, strong, and thick, suggesting that it was a grosbeak. The bird appeared to be quite tame as it continued consuming fruit from the tree. Due to the nature of my job, I could only watch it for a moment. After I finished my route, I checked a field guide and confirmed the bird's identity as an adult male Pine Grosbeak.

The next day, at 2:10 p.m., I saw the bird again in the same location and watched it for about five minutes as it ate fruit from the tree. This time I noticed a very bright patch of crimson on its rump near the base of the tail feathers. I saw the bird again at 3:45 p.m. and returned at 4:15 p.m. with my camera. I parked my car at the curb near the tree where the bird was feeding. I stayed in my car, rolled the window down, zoomed in at 210 mm., and took eight photos of the Pine Grosbeak, some as close as about 15 feet from where I was sitting. Fortunately, all eight photographs came out well and helped confirm my identification of the bird.

I saw the bird again several times on 7 November. It was still at the same location, feeding on some very small apples with fruits about 3/4 inches in diameter. This appears to be the first report of a Pine Grosbeak in Ida County and one of the few reports of the species in Iowa during the 1990s.

1531 Harvest Avenue, Holstein, IA 51025-8117

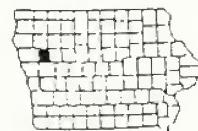
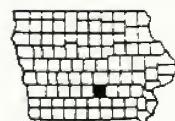


Fig. 1. Pine Grosbeak in Ida County.
6 Nov. 1997. Curtis Rector.

COMMON EIDER IN MARION COUNTY

STEPHEN J. DINSMORE

On 27 January 1995 I received a call from Tim Schantz about a female eider along the Des Moines River below the Red Rock Reservoir dam in Marion County. Jim Dinsmore and I arrived at 1:45 p.m. and quickly found the bird. We were able to study it at fairly close range until 3:05 p.m. with several other birders. When we left, we concurred with Schantz's conclusion that the bird was an adult female Common Eider.



The following description was written during the observation. The bird was a very large duck; it was longer, broader, and larger-headed than a Mallard. The bird had a pale head and sides and a dark back. The head was tan-colored with a dark line extending from the base of the upper mandible over the crown and down the back of the neck. There was a faint pale line above the eye. The cheek was pale-colored. The bill was longer than the length of the head, thick, and dark. The upper mandible had a flat surface. The upper surface of the bill was nearly flat with top of head, although there was a slight "bump" on the forehead. The bill had a slightly bulbous tip. Feathering extended down the sides of the upper mandible to a point just posterior to the nostril. The eye was dark and positioned near the top of the head. The throat and chin appeared pale tan-colored. The breast was tan with darker (black/dark brown), narrow, horizontal barring. There was a sharp line of contrast between the pale throat and the barred breast. The flanks were also tan with darker vertical barring. This vertical barring was continuous, unlike the darker chevrons that mark the flanks of female and immature King Eiders. The back and upperwings were very dark brown/black. When the bird flapped its wings, I noted that both surfaces of the wing were dark and had no visible wingbars or patches. The axillars were white. The vent was also barred, the pattern appearing similar to that on the flanks. The rectrices were dark brown/black, with at least the central two feathers appearing worn. Based on these features, the bird was identified as a Common Eider in female or immature plumage. The prominent dark barring on the flanks and breast, coupled with the molt

pattern of the tail and lack of pale tips to the wing coverts, indicate the bird was an adult female in eclipse plumage. Based on the very pale color on the head and flanks, we identified this bird as the pacific subspecies *v-nigra*. The eastern subspecies *nigricens* typically shows a large amount of reddish-brown color on the head and flanks, very unlike the color of this bird.

The eider remained at this location through 7 April 1995 (*Iowa Bird Life* 65:71, 1995) and was seen by many. This represents the second confirmed record of a Common Eider for Iowa. The other record is of a specimen taken on 1 November 1901 near Sioux City, Woodbury County (DuMont 1934). There are a few earlier reports that lack adequate descriptions.

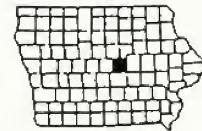


Fig. 1. Common Eider at Red Rock Reservoir, 29 Feb. 1995. Reid Allen.

HAWK WATCHING AFTER A SNOWSTORM

BETH PROESCHOLDT

It was the day after a record breaking early snowstorm. The heavy wet snow on trees still carrying leaves bowed down branches and caused severe breakage. The morning of 27 October 1997 was clear and calm, with the temperature rising from a low of 17 degrees up to 32 degrees.



I went out grudgingly to our Grammer Grove hawk watch in northwestern Marshall County only because Eugene and Eloise Armstrong were to be there, and Eugene anticipated a big count after the snow. And there we sat in our yard chairs at 9 a.m., in six inches of snow, waiting.

It started slowly with only flocks of blackbirds and American Crows following the Iowa River south. Then a little after 10 a.m., Bald Eagles and Red-tailed Hawks started floating through.

The day was so calm that they soared over lazily and low, giving us good looks. The sun was bright with strong reflections from the snow causing the redtails directly overhead to appear as white as gulls, with their distinctive patagial marks and belly bands scarcely showing.

By 1 p.m., an amazing 72 Bald Eagles of all ages had passed. In eight autumns of hawk watching at Grammer Grove, this was more eagles than we had ever counted before in an entire season. They came along three at a time, or five or six. Once there were 12 Bald Eagles and 4 Red-tailed Hawks circling together over the field before slowly moving on.

Along with them were more special birds: 3 Golden Eagles (one a lovely juvenile), 2 coveted Rough-legged Hawks (one a dark morph), 4 Red-shouldered Hawks (one beautifully highlighted by reflections from the snow), and 69 Red-tailed Hawks, plus 1 Northern Harrier, 4 Sharp-shinned Hawks, and 2 Cooper's Hawks. And then the show was over, but for four stragglers.

But what a day! Not a huge overall count, but it was our best eagle day ever. And had it not been for Eugene's insistence, we would have missed it.

P. O. Box 65, Liscomb, IA 50148

LAZULI BUNTING IN PLYMOUTH COUNTY

JIM SINCLAIR

On 18 May 1997 I was fortunate enough to be given a private birding tour of northwestern Woodbury County and southwestern Plymouth County. My host for the morning was Jerry Probst, who proudly guided me through and around his favorite haunts.



One of our stops was along the Big Sioux River near where Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota meet. As we turned west off of Highway 12 onto the river bottoms, a small bird flew up out of the southside ditch. The bird flew a short distance before landing on a weed stem facing away from us. Jerry and I wordlessly stared at the bird for a few moments before I courageously offered, "that is certainly an interesting

bird." At that moment the bird hitched itself around and gave us a perfect front view. In unison Jerry and I called "Lazuli!"

The bird was small, approximately five to six inches long, and sparrow- or finch-shaped. The rump, mantle, and head were a lovely turquoise-blue color with a gray wash on the mantle, nape, and extending up to the crown. The throat and upper breast were also blue, while the remainder of the breast was a rich medium brown. The belly and vent were white. The wings were dark with pale feather edgings and a prominent wing bar on the median wing coverts. The eye was dark and the bill was short and conical. Jerry and I were able to ascertain that this male Lazuli Bunting was a first-spring bird by the presence of the gray wash on the mantle extending up to the head.

We watched the bird for a short while before it moved off down a brushy waterway towards more extensive cover. This was a state bird for both of us.

Unbelievably, another male Lazuli Bunting was discovered that same morning just a few miles south at Stone State Park. These two birds, plus two other male Lazuli Buntings which appeared at feeders in western Iowa during the later half of May, represent the largest single invasion of this species into Iowa. Up until the spring of 1997 there were only eight previously accepted records for this species in Iowa (IBL 67:91) making the Lazuli invasion of 1997 notable indeed.

810 North B. Street, Indianola, IA 50125

WESTERN TANAGER IN DICKINSON COUNTY

ED THELEN

Everything you have read about moving water attracting more birds is absolutely true. In the spring of 1996 I decided to add a water feature to my backyard. I already had a bird bath but within a few days after adding running water I was rewarded with the following new birds for my yard list: Mourning Warbler, Indigo Bunting, Ovenbird, and Western Tanager.



On 23 May 1996 I was enjoying the antics of several Baltimore Orioles when I saw what at first glance I thought was another oriole. On closer inspection with my binoculars I saw that the bill was pale and shorter than the bill of a nearby oriole. I didn't know it at the time but I was looking at a Western Tanager. This bird also had a bright red-orange chin with the red radiating onto the throat and towards the eyes. It did not extend above the eyes or onto the forehead. Its back was an olive-green color while its belly, breast, flank, and sides were more of a yellow-green color, much lighter than the back. Its wings were a shade darker than the back with two prominent wing-bars. I was unable to note any coloration of the wing-bars except they were very light colored and prominent. The bird's rump was the same color as its undersides, while its forehead, crown, and nape were an olive-green color and lighter than the back. Its tail was also shorter than the tails of nearby orioles.

I could detect no sound from this bird during the three minutes of observation. It drank water and also bathed during this time. I was unable to relocate this bird after it flew into some nearby trees.

According to the Master Guide to Birding, juvenile Scarlet Tanagers resemble the female but are more variable and have bright yellow wing-bars. Also according to the National Geographic Bird Guide, the immature Scarlet Tanager has faint wing-bars. I don't think it was a juvenile or immature Scarlet Tanager because at this time of year

the bird is not in juvenal plumage and the bird I saw had prominent wing-bars. This bird had a very light-colored rump with its nape also lighter than its back giving the bird's upper part the light-dark-light sequence for its nape-back-rump. This is characteristic of the Western Tanager.

This is what A. C. Bent (*U. S. Natl. Museum Bull.*, no. 211, 1958) has to say about the plumages of the first-year male Western Tanager. "There is considerable variation among individuals, these one-year males are as a whole somewhat less brilliant than the adults. The black of the upper part is duller and more or less intermixed with greenish. The red on the head paler, less intense and more restricted in area; and the yellows decidedly duller and less brilliant."

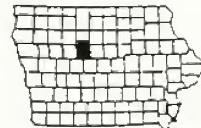
After reviewing my notes and the above references I identified this bird as a first-year male Western Tanager. According to Birds in Iowa (Kent and Dinsmore, 1996) this is the 12th record for the state and the first for Dickinson County.

15362 250th Ave., Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360

WHITE-WINGED DOVE IN FORT DODGE

DIANA J. HULTINE

On 21 September 1997, I was watching several Mourning Doves feeding on the ground in my yard. I noted another dove that joined them and that was clearly not a Mourning Dove. The characteristics that I noted that separated this bird from the others were its much darker brown wings, distinct white patches on the wings, the lack of black spots on the back, and the presence of white areas on both sides at the end of the tail. I was able to compare the bird with the various doves illustrated in Robbins *Birds of North America* and identify it based on those illustrations. I was also able to take several photographs that were examined by the I.O.U. Records Committee and confirmed the identification. The bird returned to my yard several times on the 21st and again the next three days. Each time, it perched in a nearby tree and then flew to the ground where it fed and drank with the Mourning Doves. I last saw the White-winged Dove on the morning of 24 September. I have a number of different species of birds that visit my yard but this certainly was the most exciting one I have seen there yet.



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The IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION, founded in 1923, encourages interest in the identification, study, and protection of birds in Iowa and seeks to unite those who have these interests in common. *Iowa Bird Life* and *I.O.U. News* are quarterly publications of the Union.

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INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

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30 April-2 May 1999, Lake Rathbun/Centerville area

FIELD REPORTS

Anyone observing birds in Iowa is encouraged to report their findings on a quarterly basis to the Field Reports editors. Sample reporting and documentation forms suitable for duplication are available from the editor (send self-addressed stamped envelope to Jim Dinsmore, 4024 Arkansas Dr., Ames, IA 50014). An article describing the reporting process is also available.

Deadlines for receipt of field reports are as follows:

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- *Fall (Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov)--3 December (Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St., Iowa City, IA 52246)

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The birdline is a recorded summary of interesting recent bird sightings in Iowa. At the end of the report you can leave a message and report recent sightings. Be sure to give your name and phone number as well as the location of the bird and date seen. Call in as soon as possible after sighting a rare bird. Jim Fuller checks the reports daily and updates the recording on Monday, so make sure Sunday sightings are reported by Sunday night.

I.O.U. HOMEPAGE: <http://storm.simpson.edu/~birding/>

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Send items of interest for the newsletter to the editors (Hank and Linda Zaletel, 1928 6th St., Nevada, IA 50201).

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Back issues of *Iowa Bird Life* are available through the editorial office. For order form, send self-addressed envelope to: Iowa Bird Life, 4024 Arkansas Dr., Ames, IA 50014.

Field Checklist of Iowa Birds--1996 Edition: 25 for \$8.00, postpaid and other I.O.U. materials are available from Maridel Jackson, 410 S. Westview Dr., Ankeny, IA 50021. Also available at annual meetings.

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Sightings of Nebraska birds, including those within the Nebraska portion of DeSoto N.W.R., should be reported to Loren and Babs Padelford, 1405 Little John Road, Bellevue, NE 68005. Formats for reporting and documentation are the same as for Iowa. The Nebraska Bird Line, available 24 hours a day, is 402-292-5325. Iowa birders are encouraged to report their Nebraska sightings to this number.

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